



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP **12¢**

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

27
AUG

IND.

"BRING BACK MY
GOBLIN TO ME!"





BRING BACK MY GOBLIN TO ME!

JUST AS THE MYSTERIOUS **CRIME-MASTER** PREPARES TO TAKE COMMAND OVER THE CITY'S GANGS, A STARTLING **INTERRUPTION** TAKES PLACE, AS THE GLOATING **GREEN GOBLIN** BRINGS IN AN UNCONSCIOUS **PRISONER!**

HOW'S THAT FOR A ONE-SENTENCE RESUMÉ OF LAST MONTH'S 20-PAGE THRILLER??

I **WARNED** YOU THAT I'D NEVER LET ANYONE **ELSE** TAKE OVER AS **GANGLORD** OF THE CITY! EVEN THE **CRIME-MASTER** SHALL SERVE THE **GREEN GOBLIN!**

THE **GOBLIN!!** WITH **SPIDER-MAN--** STILL ALIVE! BUT-- I THOUGHT I HAD **KILLED** HIM!

SOME OF YOU MEN, GET **UP** HERE! I **CAUGHT** SPIDER-MAN --NOW SEE IF YOU CAN **HOLD** HIM!



EDITED AND WRITTEN
BY SMILIN' **STAN LEE**

PLOTTED AND DRAWN
BY SCOWLIN' **STEVE DITKO**

LETTERED AND GIFT-WRAPPED
BY SWINGIN' **ARTIE SIMEK**

IF YOU DIG AN ACTION-PACKED OLD-FASHIONED COPS 'N ROBBERS MYSTERY YARN, THIS ONE IS FOR **YOU!** BUT, EVEN IF YOU **DON'T** LIKE THIS KIND OF STORY, READ IT **ANYWAY!** IT MAY JUST CHANGE YOUR MIND!



IMAGINE THE GOBLIN BEATIN' **SPIDER-MAN**! HEY, WHAT GIVES? THIS BLASTED **MASK** WON'T COME OFF!

FORGET IT! WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT **LATER**! FIRST, GET 'IM CHAINED UP BEFORE HE COMES TO!



TOO BAD, MY DOUBLE-CROSSING FRIEND! THIS WILL KNOCK YOUR PLANS TO GET CONTROL OF THE MOBS INTO A COCKED HAT!

DON'T **BET** ON IT, GOBLIN! I'M NOT LICKED **YET**!

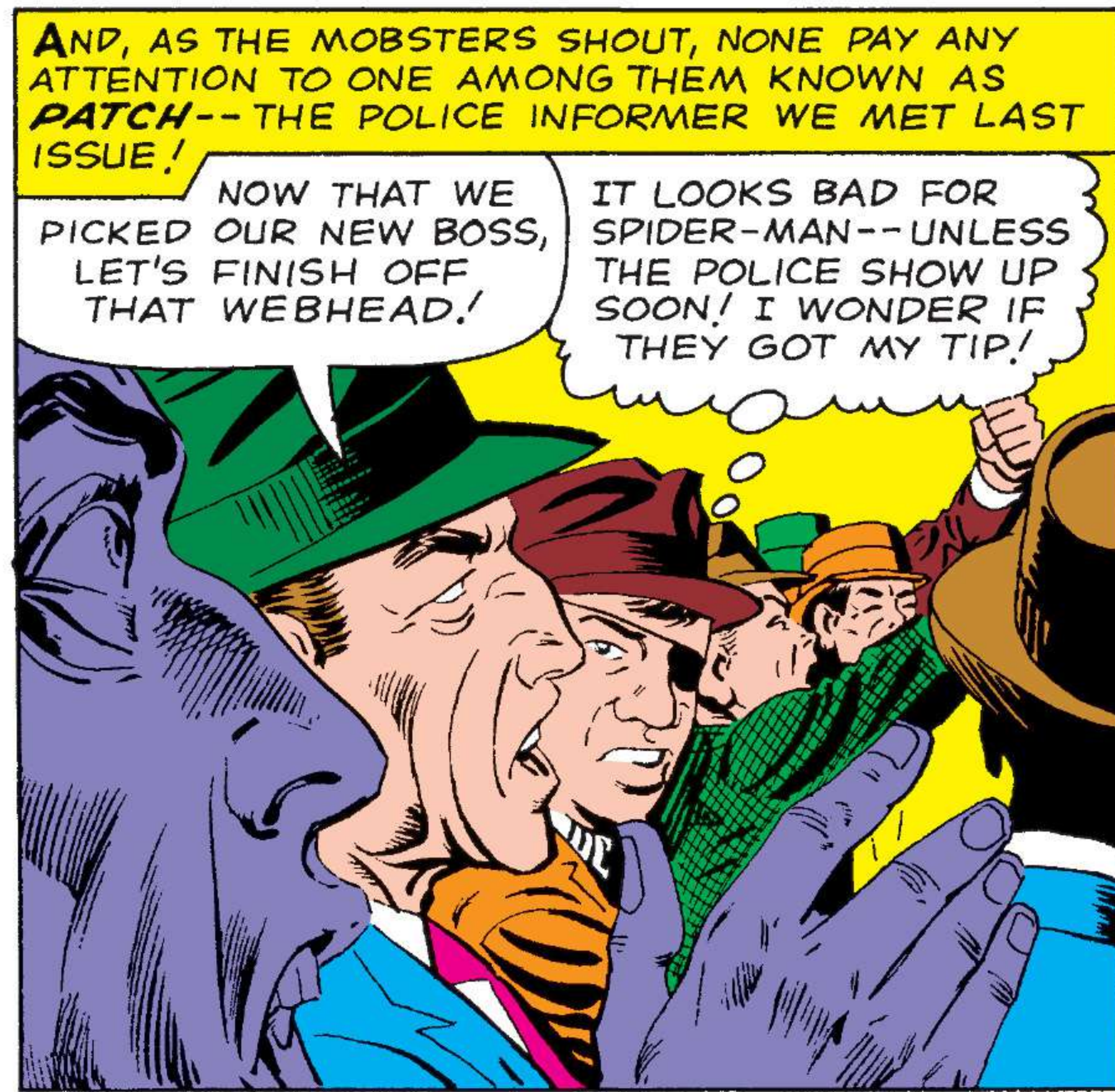


OH **NO**? TELL HIM HOW **WRONG** HE IS, MY NEW UNDERLINGS!

WE'RE TAKIN' ORDERS FROM THE **GOBLIN**, AN' NO ONE ELSE!

ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE **SPIDER-MAN** CAN BOSS ME AROUND **ANY** DAY!

GET **LOST**, MASKED MAN! YOU'RE A **HAS BEEN** AROUND HERE!



AND, AS THE MOBSTERS SHOUT, NONE PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ONE AMONG THEM KNOWN AS **PATCH**-- THE POLICE INFORMER WE MET LAST ISSUE!

NOW THAT WE PICKED OUR NEW BOSS, LET'S FINISH OFF THAT WEBHEAD!

IT LOOKS BAD FOR SPIDER-MAN--UNLESS THE POLICE SHOW UP SOON! I WONDER IF THEY GOT MY TIP!



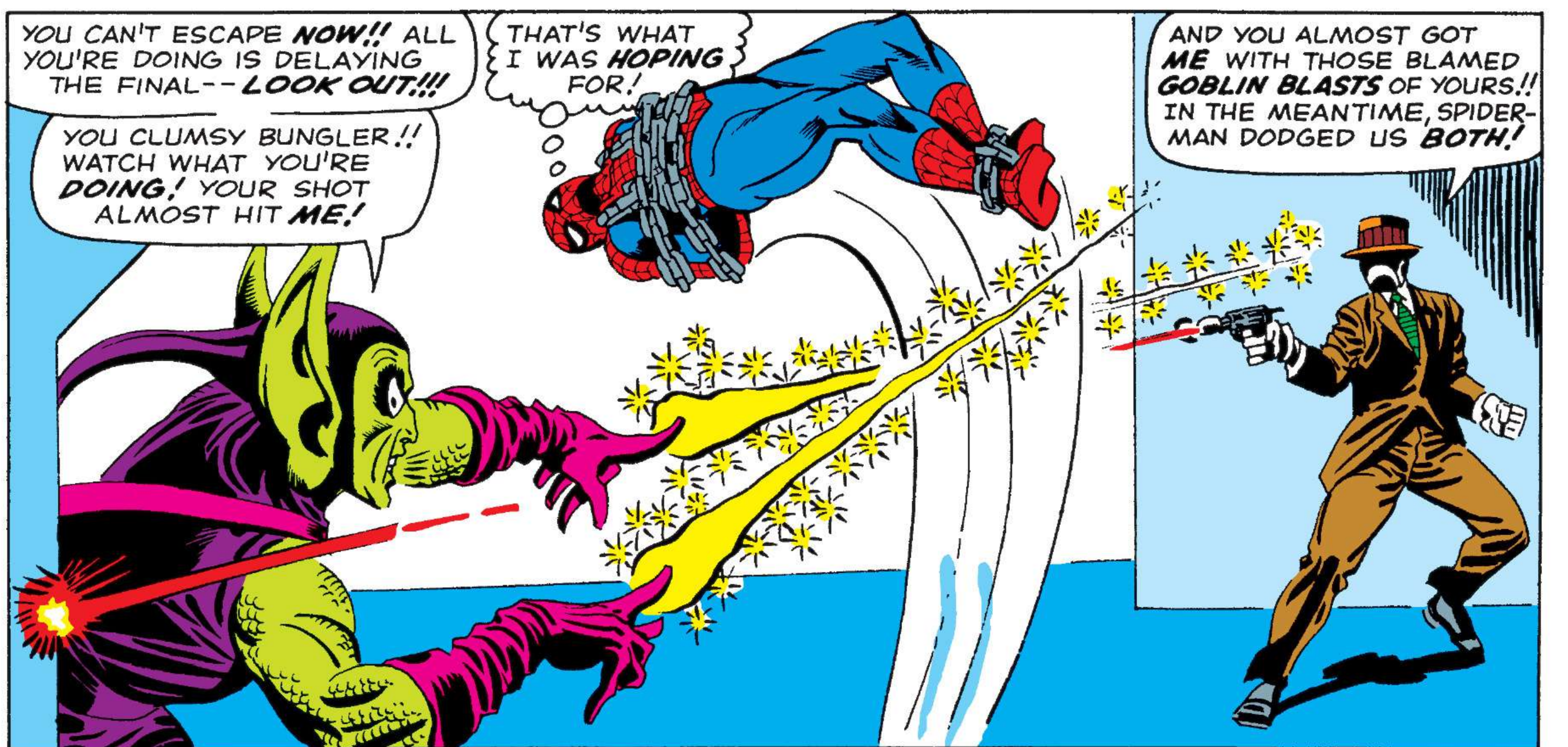
BRING HIM OVER HERE! WE'LL CELEBRATE MY NEW REIGN BY **UN-MASKING** HIM AND THEN FINISHING HIM OFF FOR **GOOD**!

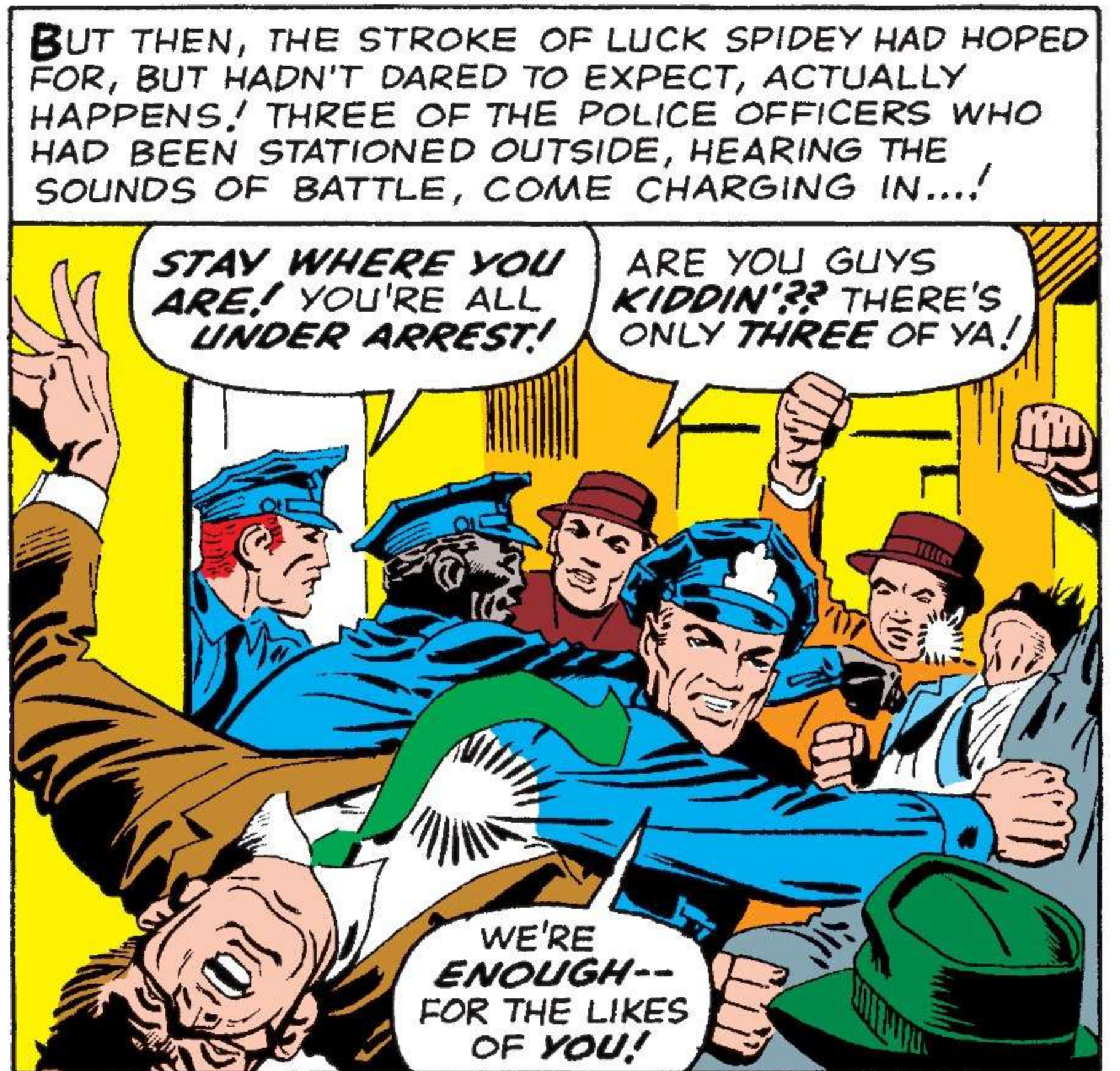
JUST IN TIME, GOBLIN! HE'S WAKIN' UP!



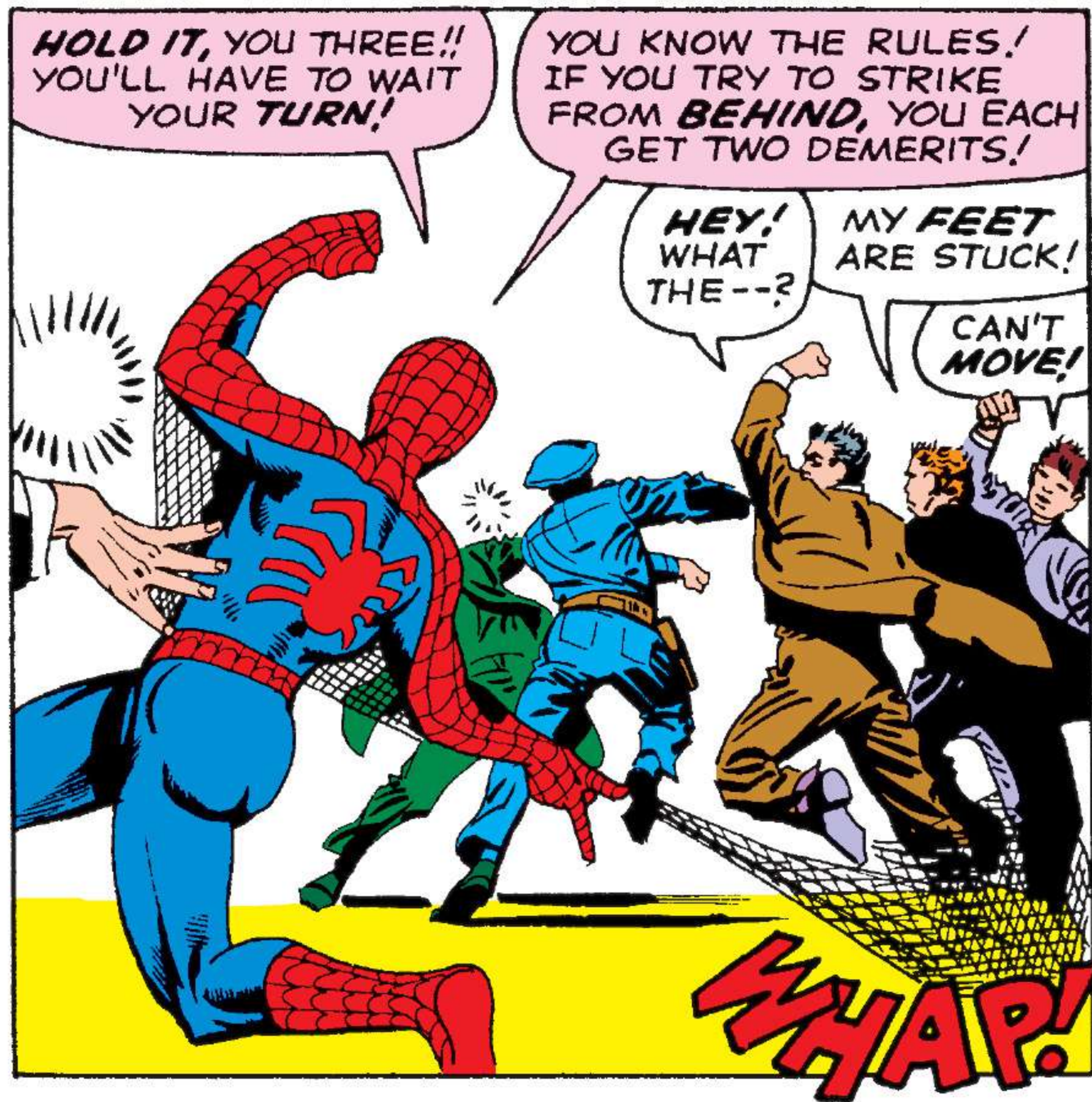
BUT, WE GOT NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT LONG AS HE'S **CHAINED** GOOD 'N TIGHT!

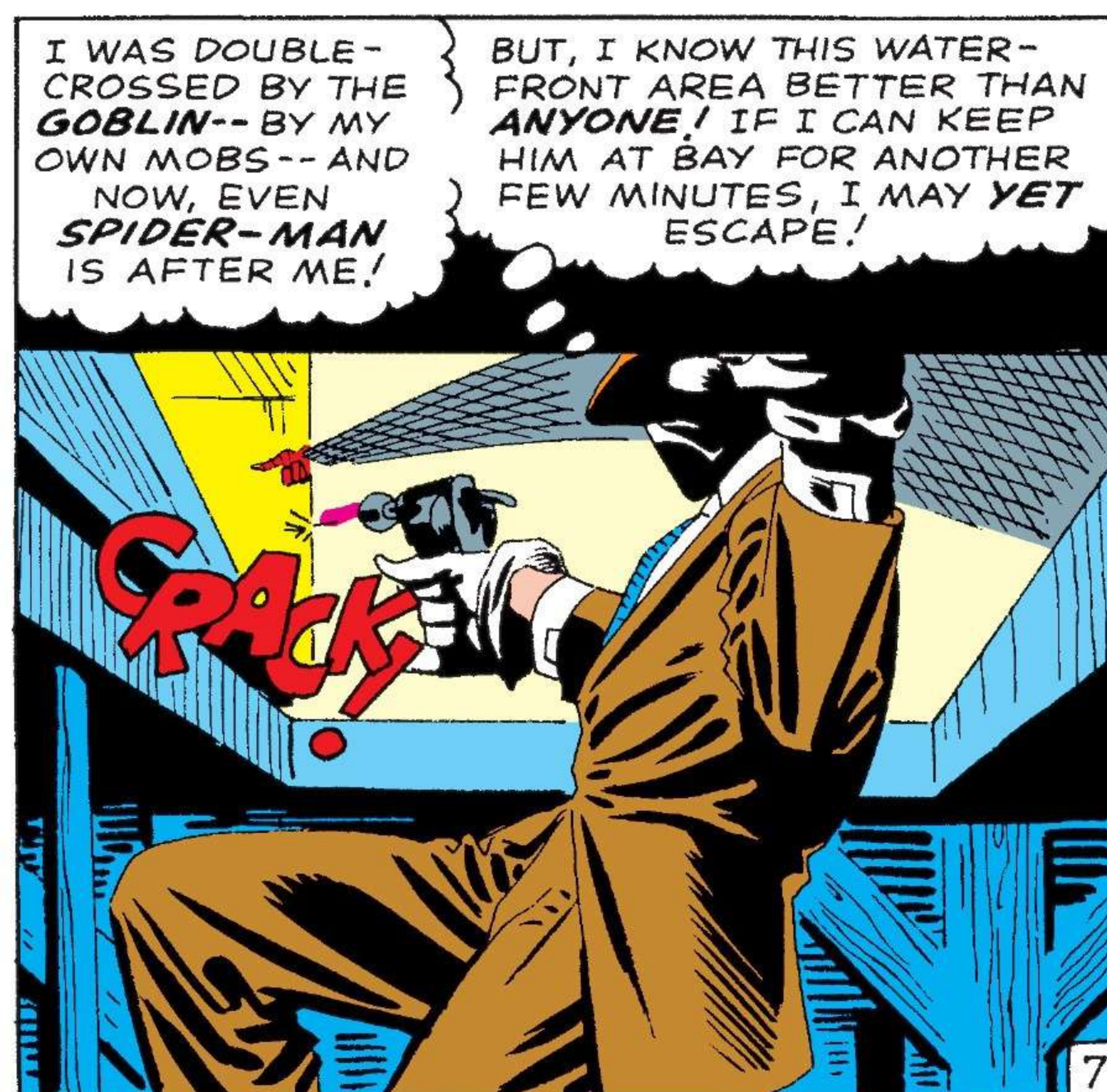
THE GAS WHICH KNOCKED ME OUT IS FINALLY WEARING OFF! BUT, FROM THE **LOOKS** OF THINGS AROUND HERE, I WAS BETTER OFF **ASLEEP**!

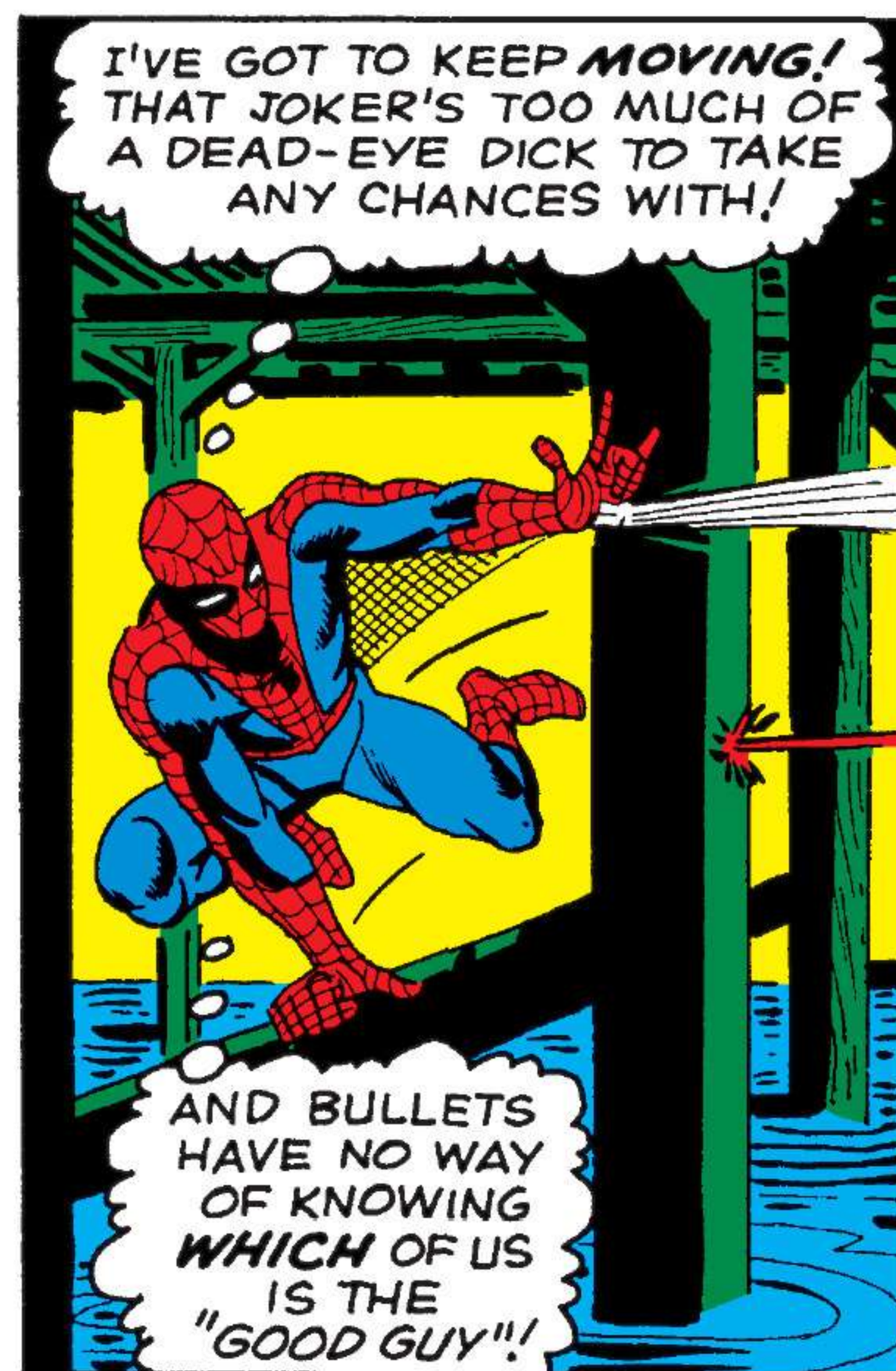
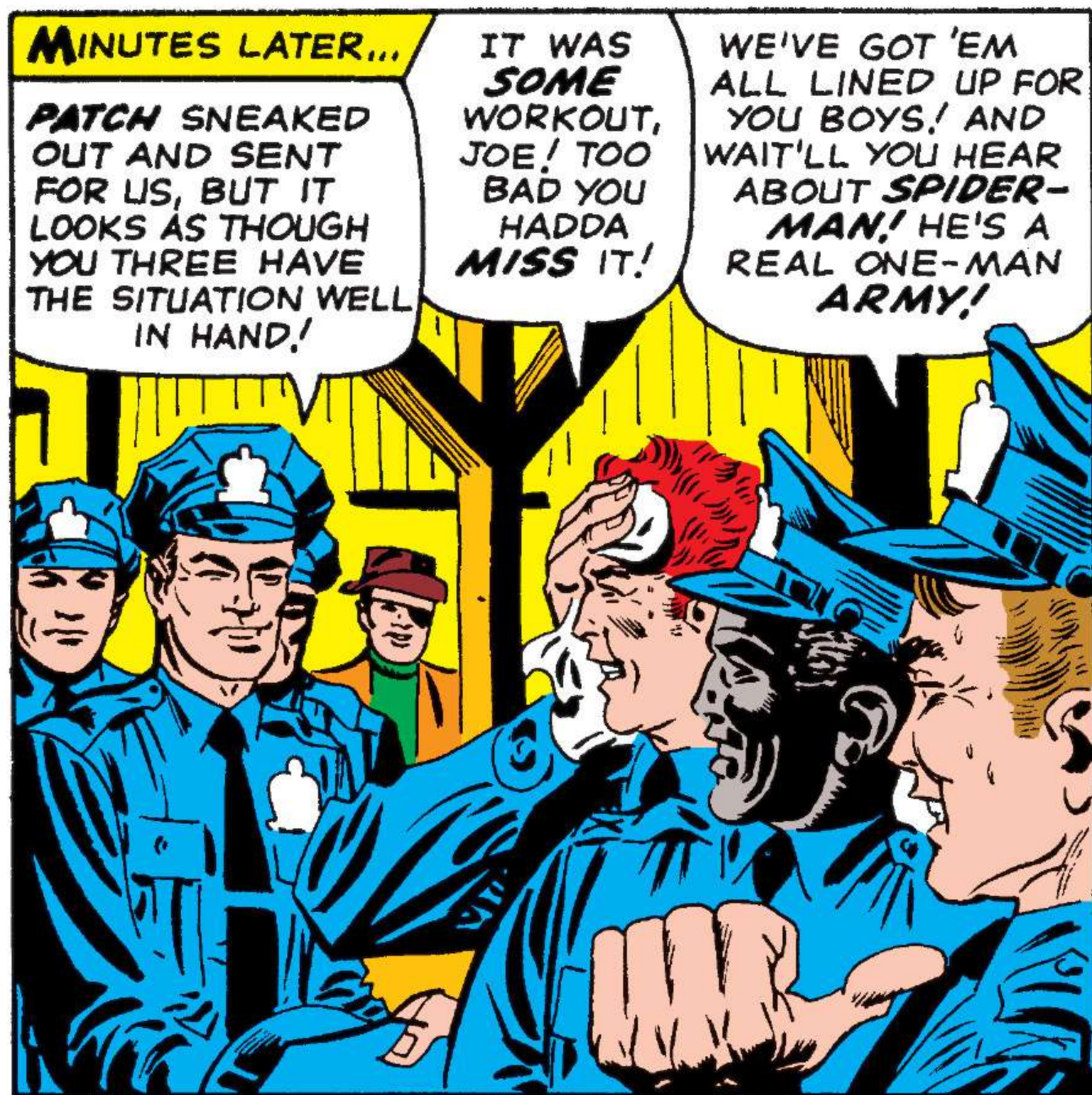


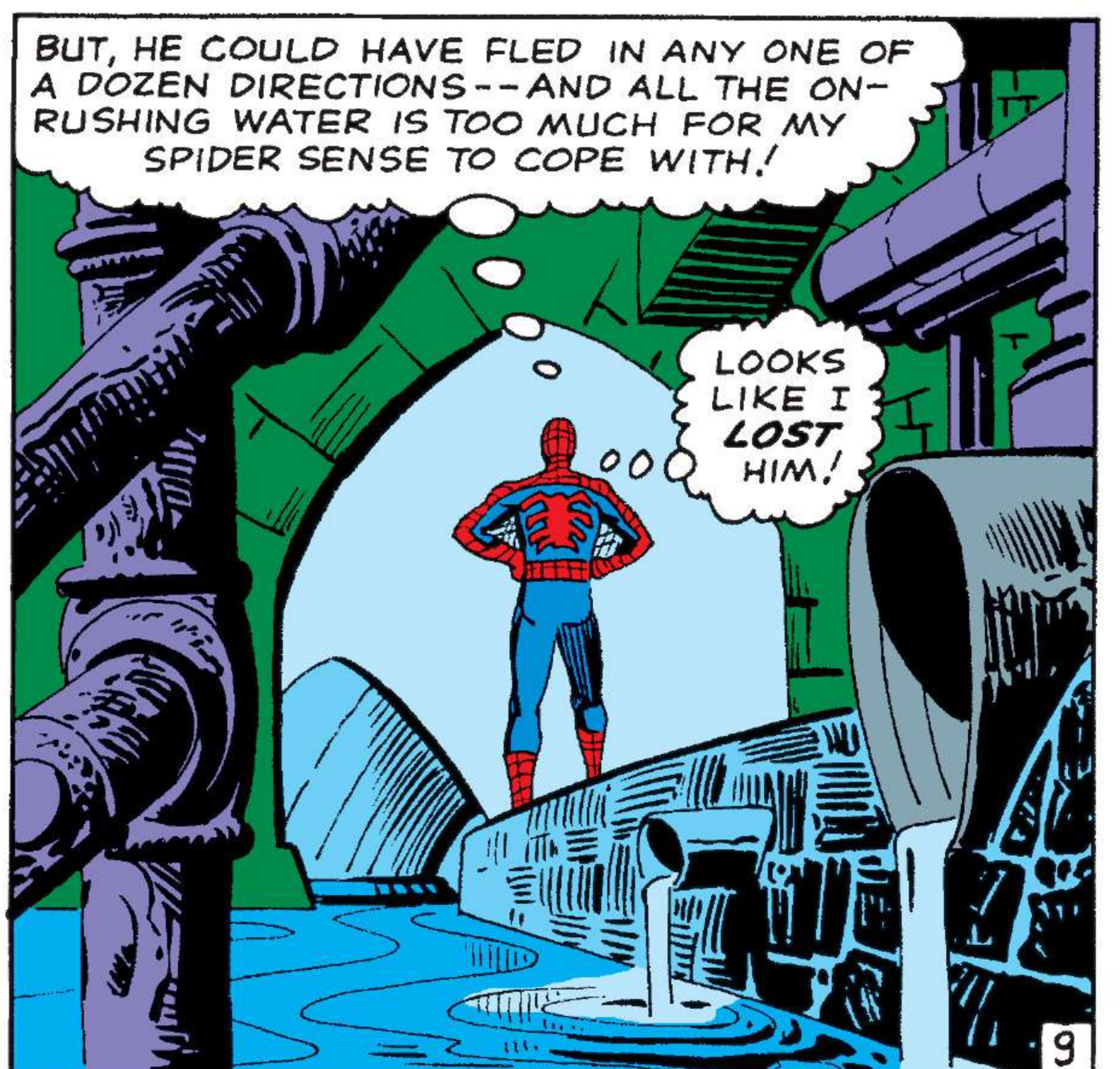
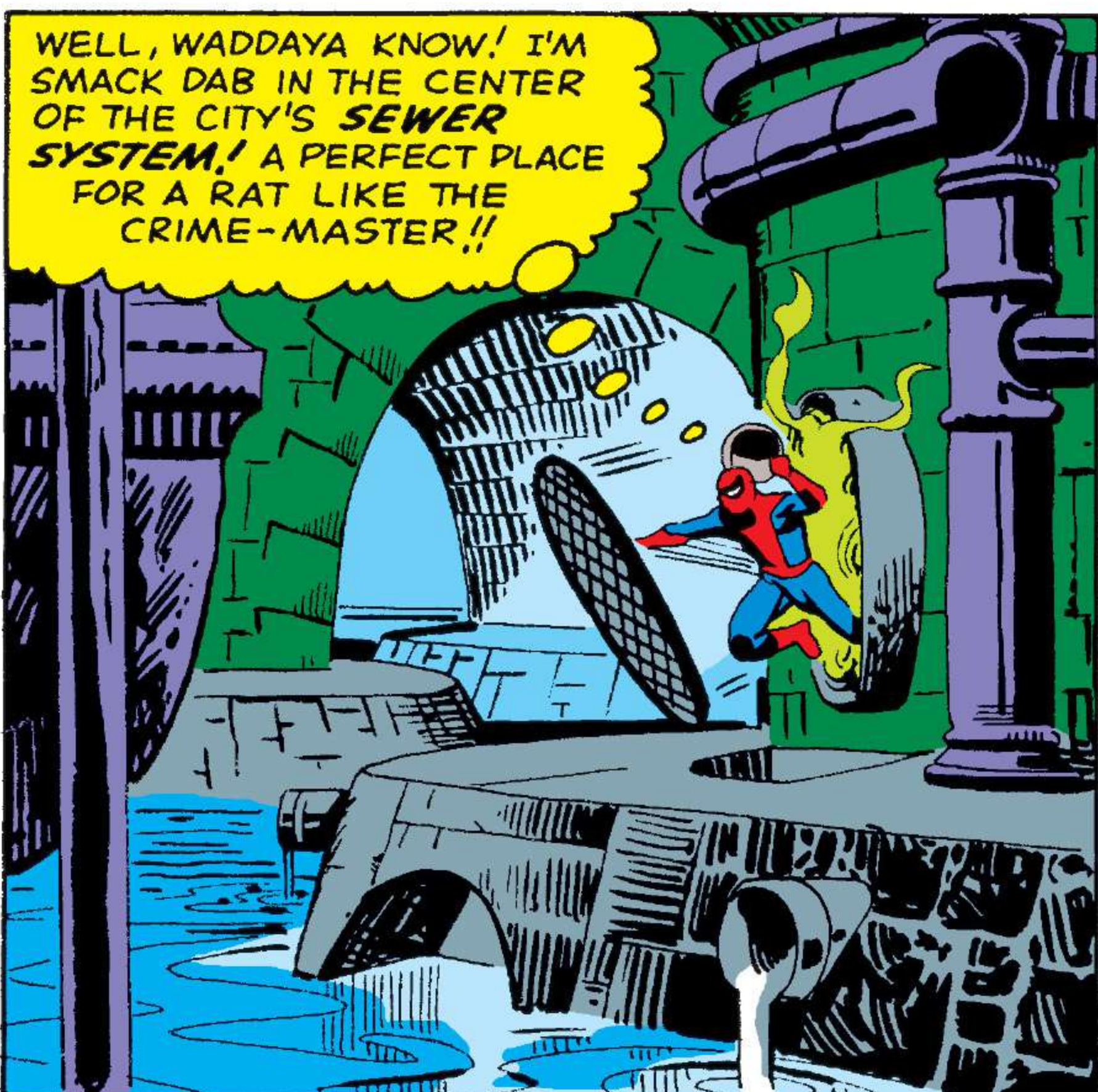
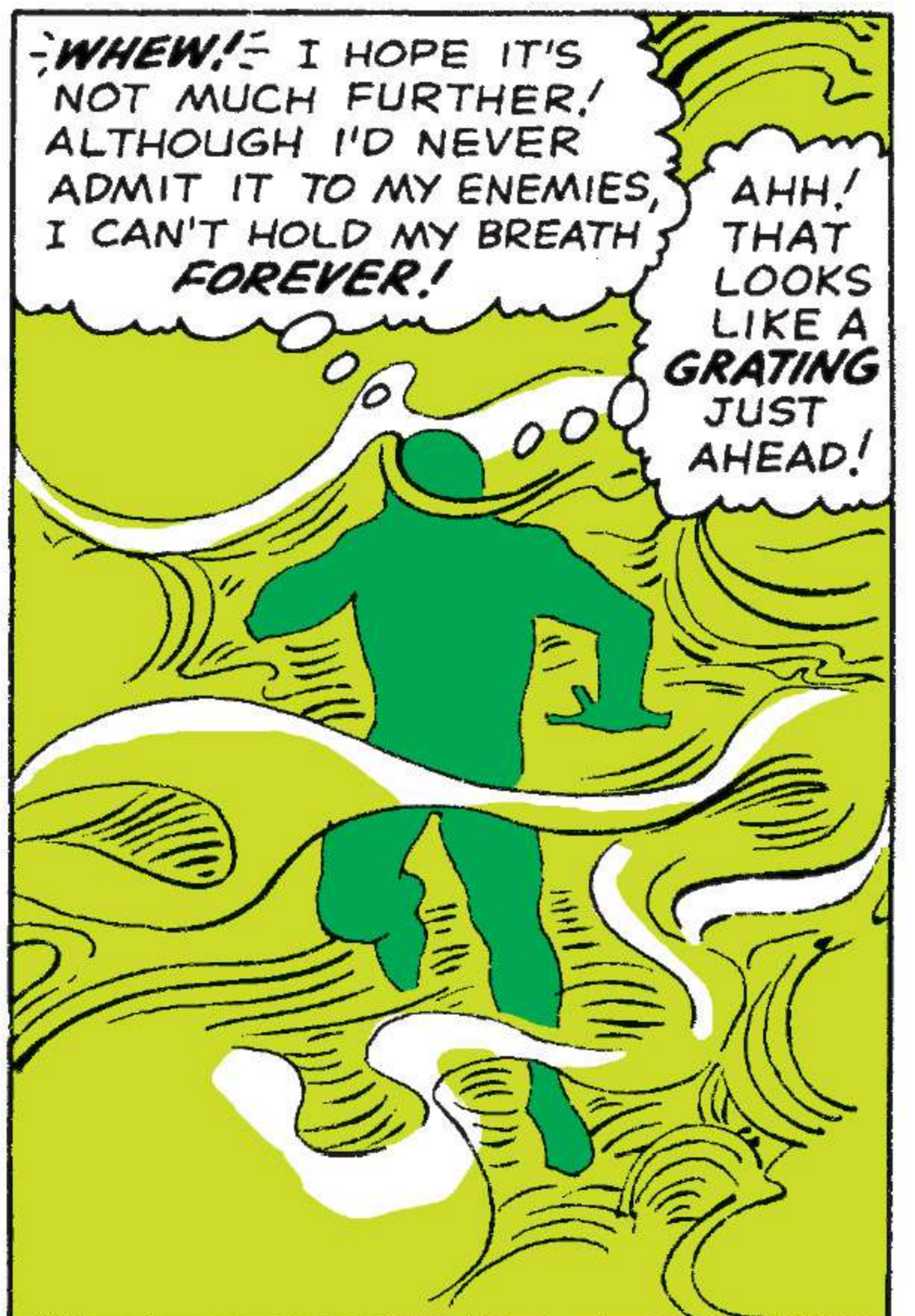
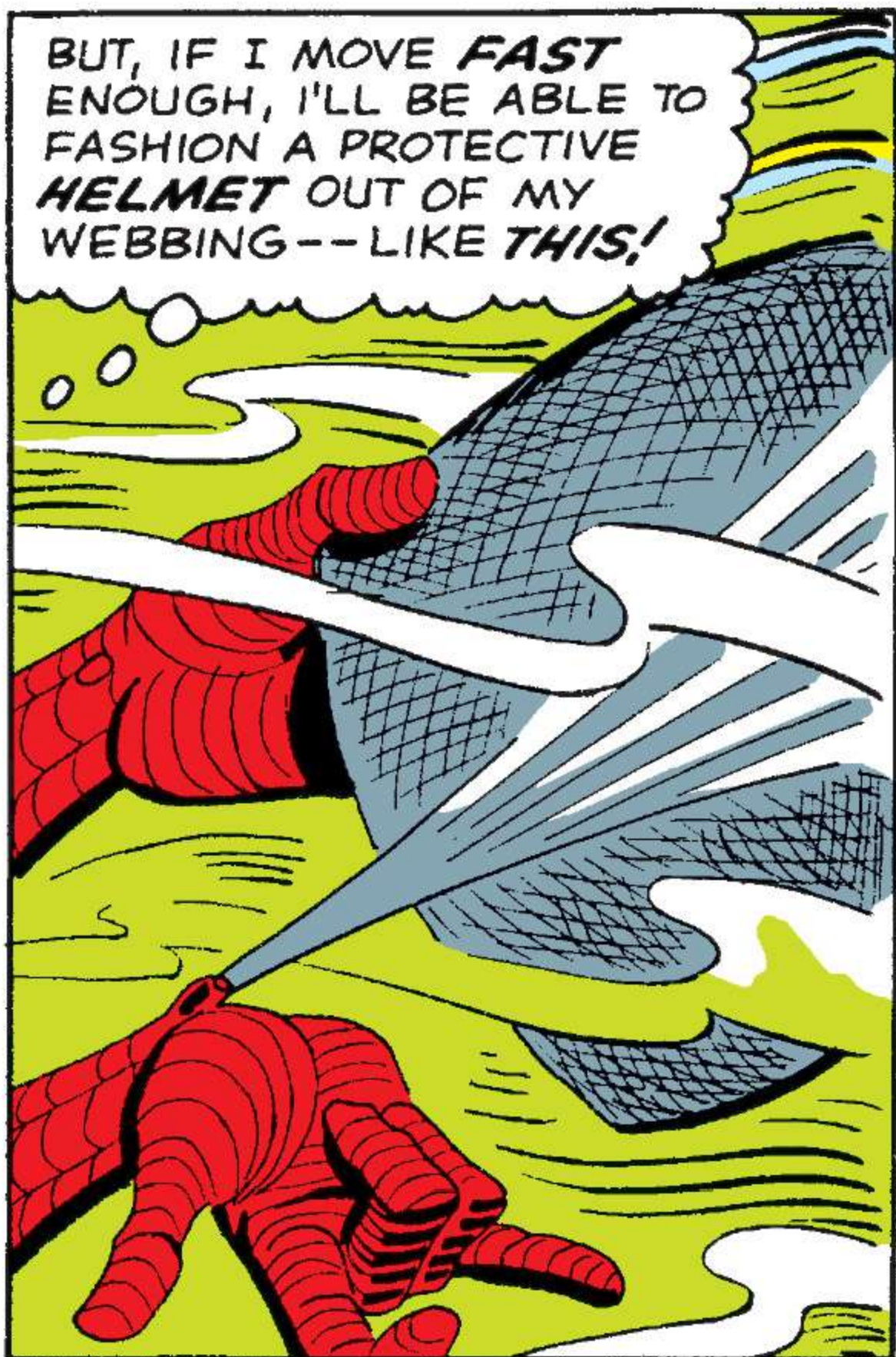


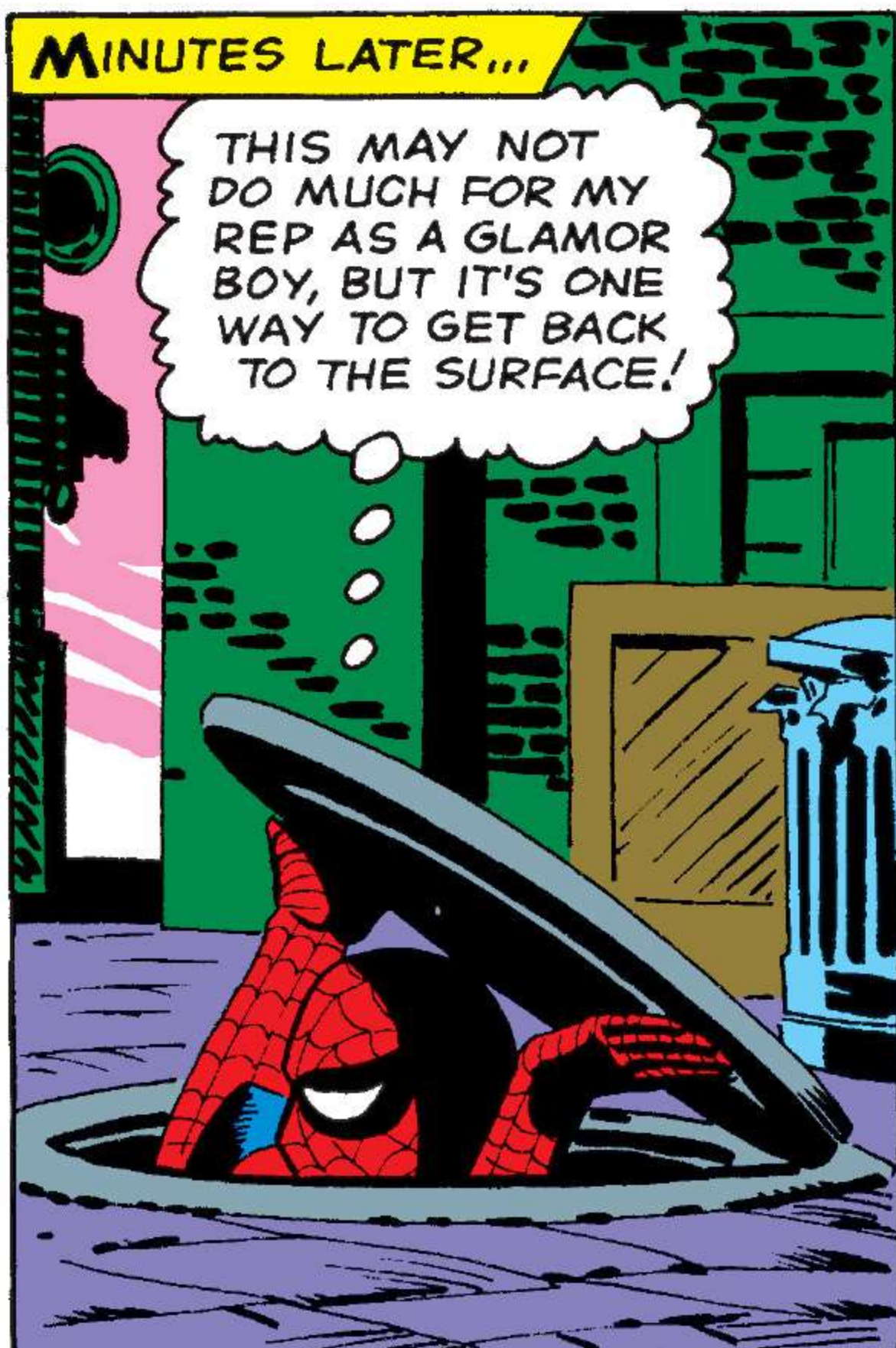












BUT, AS SPIDEY LEAVES AGAIN...

I'LL RUSH TO **JONAH'S** OFFICE! MAYBE I'LL FIND FOSWELL **THERE!**

BAH! ANOTHER SECOND AND I'D HAVE **HAD** HIM!

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS! FOSWELL'S NOT AT HIS DESK!

LOOKS LIKE I'VE REACHED A DEAD END!

WELL, EVEN IF HE *ISN'T* THE MAN I'D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLE WITH, I THINK I'LL WARN JONAH ABOUT FOSWELL!

ANOTHER CRIME SPREE BY FOSWELL COULD **RUIN** JAMESON AND THE PAPER!

YOU! DON'T MAKE ANOTHER MOVE! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS AN ALARM BUTTON, AND--!

RELAX, YOU OLD SKINFLINT! I'M HERE TO **HELP** YOU! I WANT TO WARN YOU ABOUT FREDERICK FOSWELL! I'M SURE HE'S EITHER THE **GREEN GOBLIN** OR THE **CRIME-MASTER!**

YOU HELPING ME?? I'LL BELIEVE **THAT** WHEN I HEAR A DOG **MEOW!** AS FOR FOSWELL, YOU'RE DEAD WRONG AS USUAL! HE'S WORKING ON A SERIES OF CRIME ARTICLES FOR ME! WHAT **PROOF** DO YOU HAVE THAT HE'S GONE CROOKED AGAIN?

NO PROOF YET-- BUT I **KNOW** HE'S MIXED UP IN THIS BUSINESS SOMEHOW!

SURE HE IS--AS A **REPORTER** FOR ME!

MISS BRANT, SEND FOSWELL IN HERE AS SOON AS HE RETURNS!

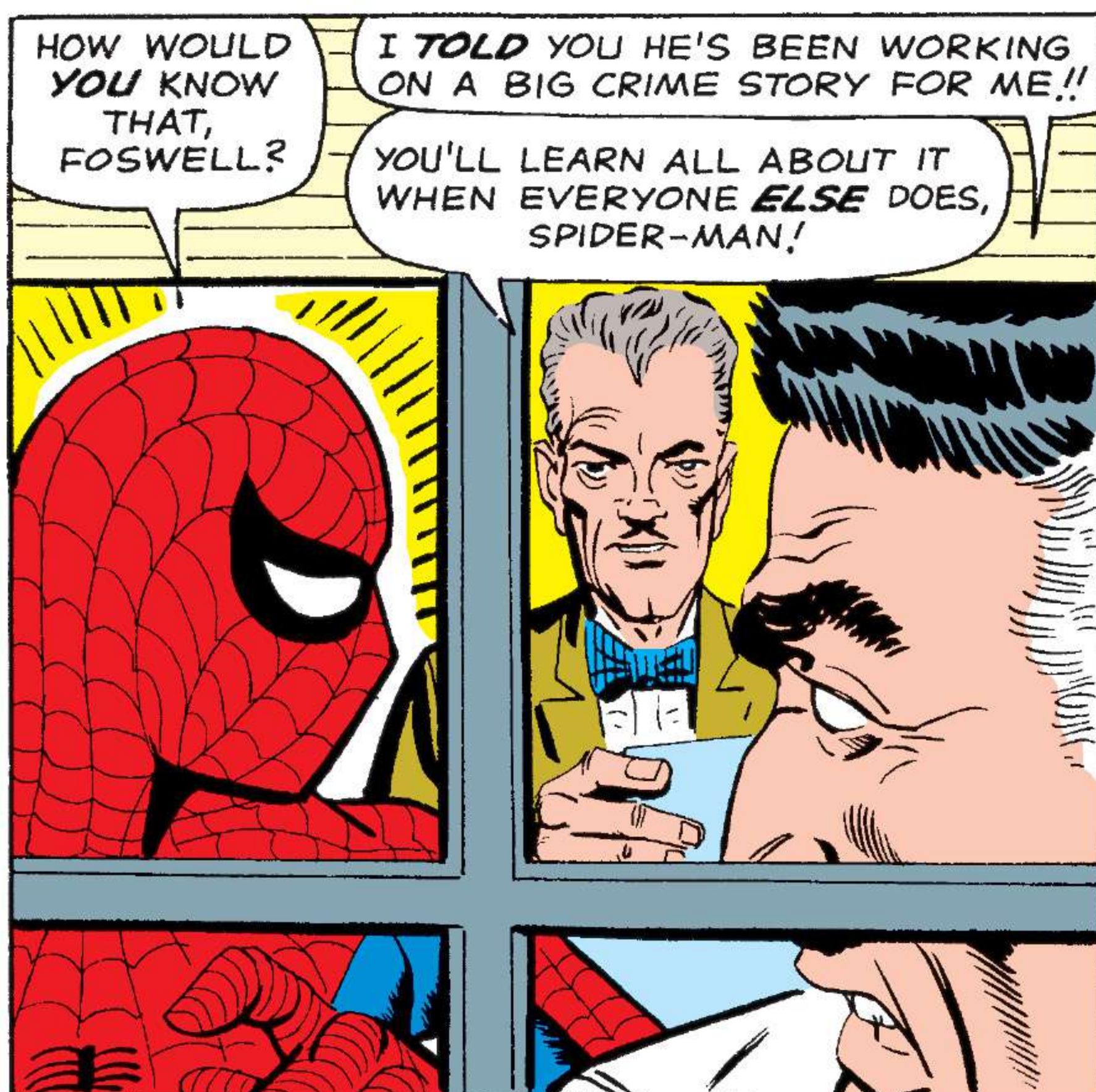
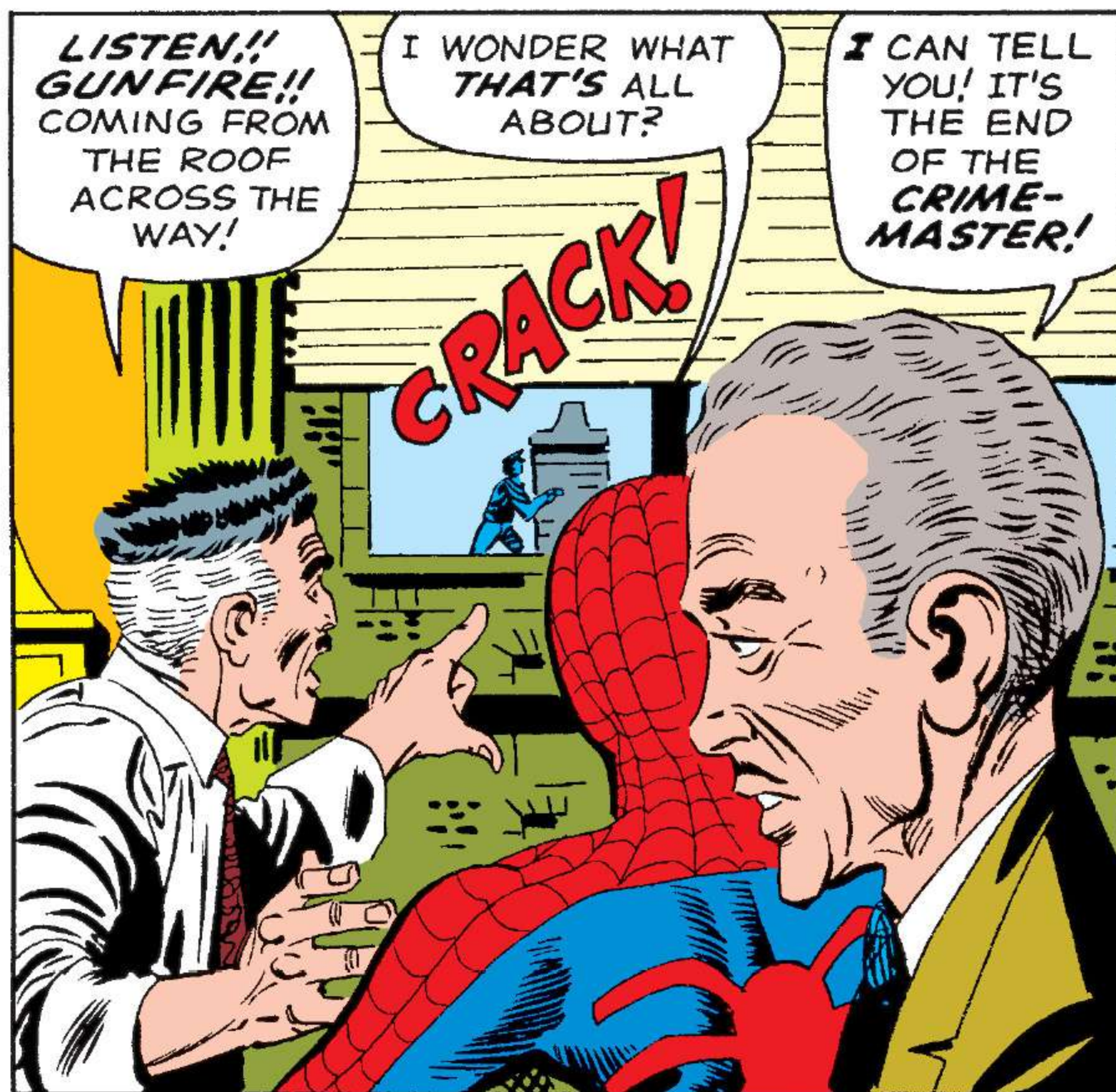
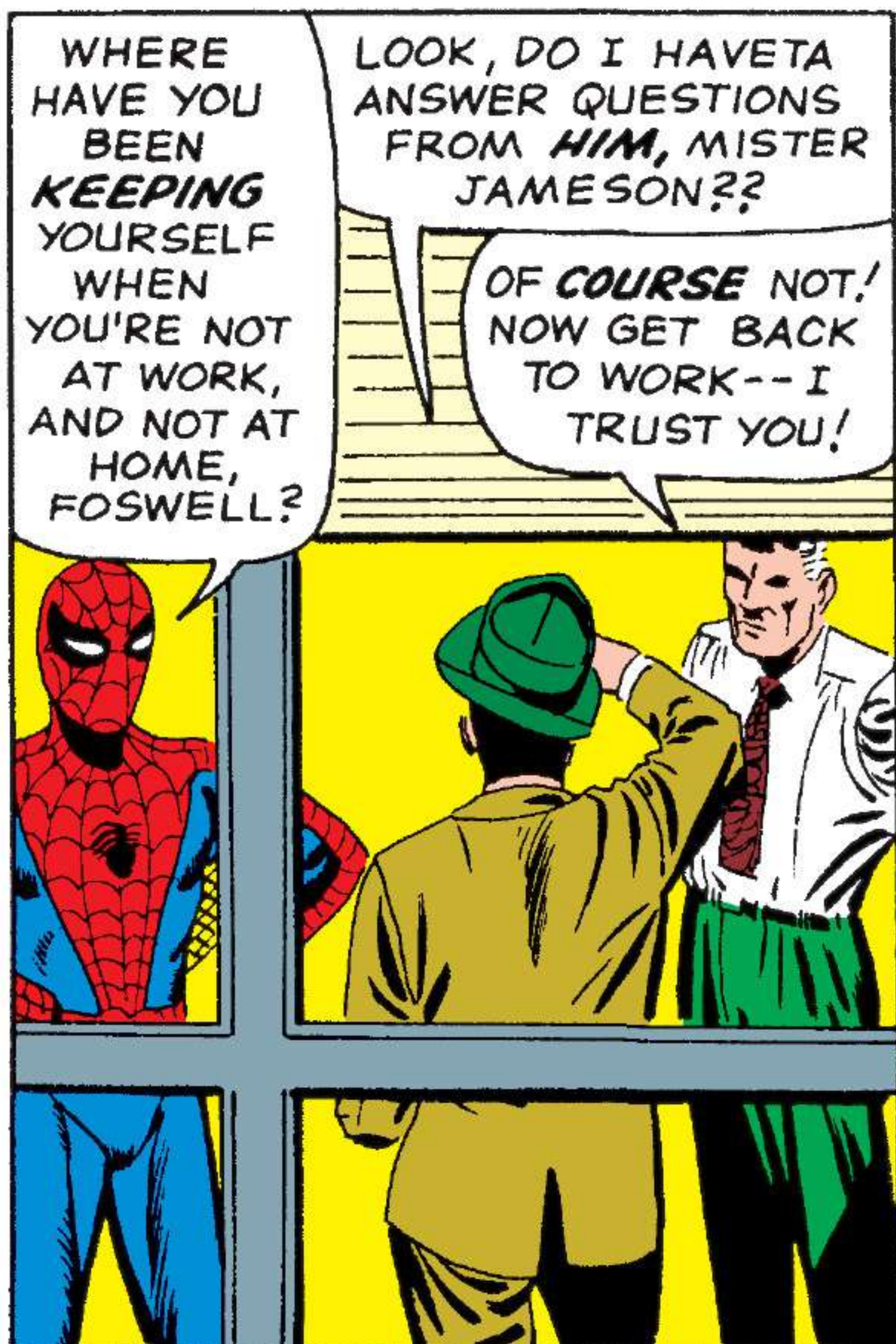
HE JUST ENTERED **NOW**, SIR! I'LL TELL HIM--!

THAT REMINDS ME! I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO CALL BETTY BRANT FOR DAYS! I WONDER IF SHE'S ANGRY?

FOSWELL, THAT WEB-HEADED IDIOT CLAIMS YOU'VE **TURNED** TO **CRIME** AGAIN! HE SAYS YOU'RE EITHER THE **GOBLIN**, OR THE **CRIME-MASTER!**

NOT **ME**, MR. JAMESON! YOU KNOW I'M TOO SMART TO TAKE A CHANCE OF BECOMING A TWO-TIME LOSER!

WHAT DOES **THAT** PROVE! EVEN IF HE **WAS** CROOKED, HE WOULDN'T **ADMIT** IT!





LOOKS LIKE HE'S **DONE FOR!**
HE'S SINKING FAST!

HE'S THE
ONE WE
THOUGHT
HE WAS!

ANYTHING YOU WANT
TO TELL US-- WHILE
YOU **CAN?**



YOU **BET** THERE IS!! --I'LL HAVE
THE LAST LAUGH **YET!** --GASP!--
IF I CASH IN, I'LL TAKE THE
GOBLIN WITH ME!-- HIS--HIS
REAL IDENTITY-- IS--IS--



BOY! IF I SAW
THAT HAPPEN
IN A MYSTERY
MOVIE, I'D LAUGH
AT HOW **CORNY**
IT WAS! AND
YET--!

A ROTTEN
BREAK FOR US!
HE'S DEAD! HE
NEVER GOT THE
NAME OUT!



MINUTES LATER...

MR. JAMESON,
THIS OFFICER
INSISTED ON
SEEING YOU!

NOT **HIM**,
LADY! I
WANT TO SEE
FOSWELL!

FOSWELL DOESN'T
LOOK WORRIED!
I WONDER WHAT
HE KNOWS THAT
I DON'T??



YOU WERE **RIGHT**
ABOUT THE **CRIME-**
MASTER'S IDENTITY!
I JUST WANTED TO
THANK YOU FOR
YOUR **HELP!**

THAT'S
OKAY!
I WAS
GLAD TO
DO IT!

HOW DID **YOU** HELP
THE POLICE, FOSWELL?

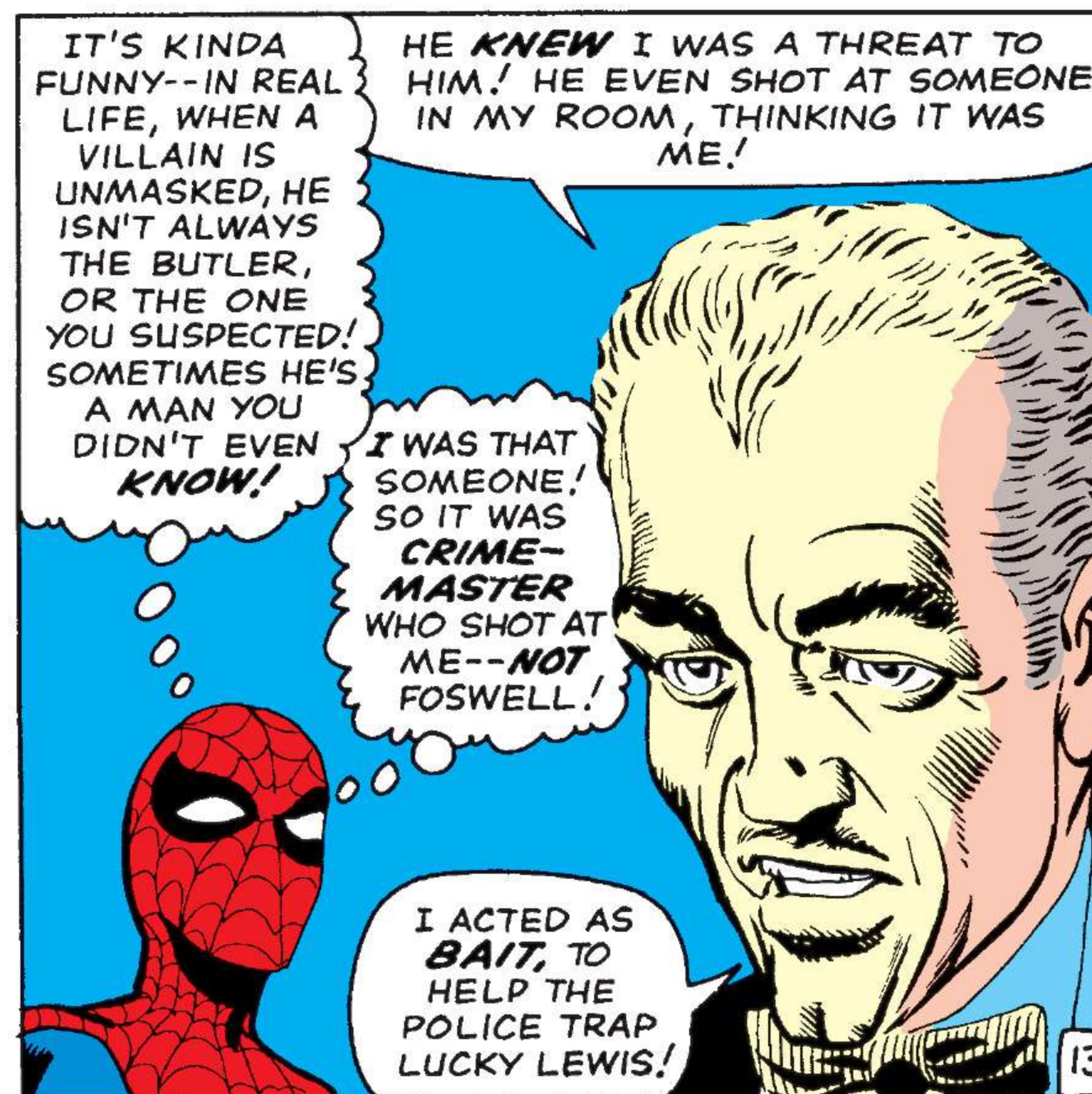
I FEEL LIKE A
FELLA WHO CAME
IN AT THE
MIDDLE OF A SPY
PICTURE AND
NEVER CAUGHT
UP TO THE
PLOT!



WHEN I WAS KNOWN
AS THE **BIG MAN**,
BEFORE I WENT STRAIGHT,
I KNEW ALL THE CITY'S
GANG LEADERS--AND
I KNEW HOW THEY
WORKED!

USING THAT KNOWLEDGE, AND
MY OWN UNDERWORLD GRAPE-
VINE, IT WASN'T HARD TO
FIGURE OUT WHICH RACKET
BOSS WAS THE CRIME-MASTER!
ALL I HAD TO DO WAS FIND
PROOF!

NICK
"LUCKY"
LEWIS!

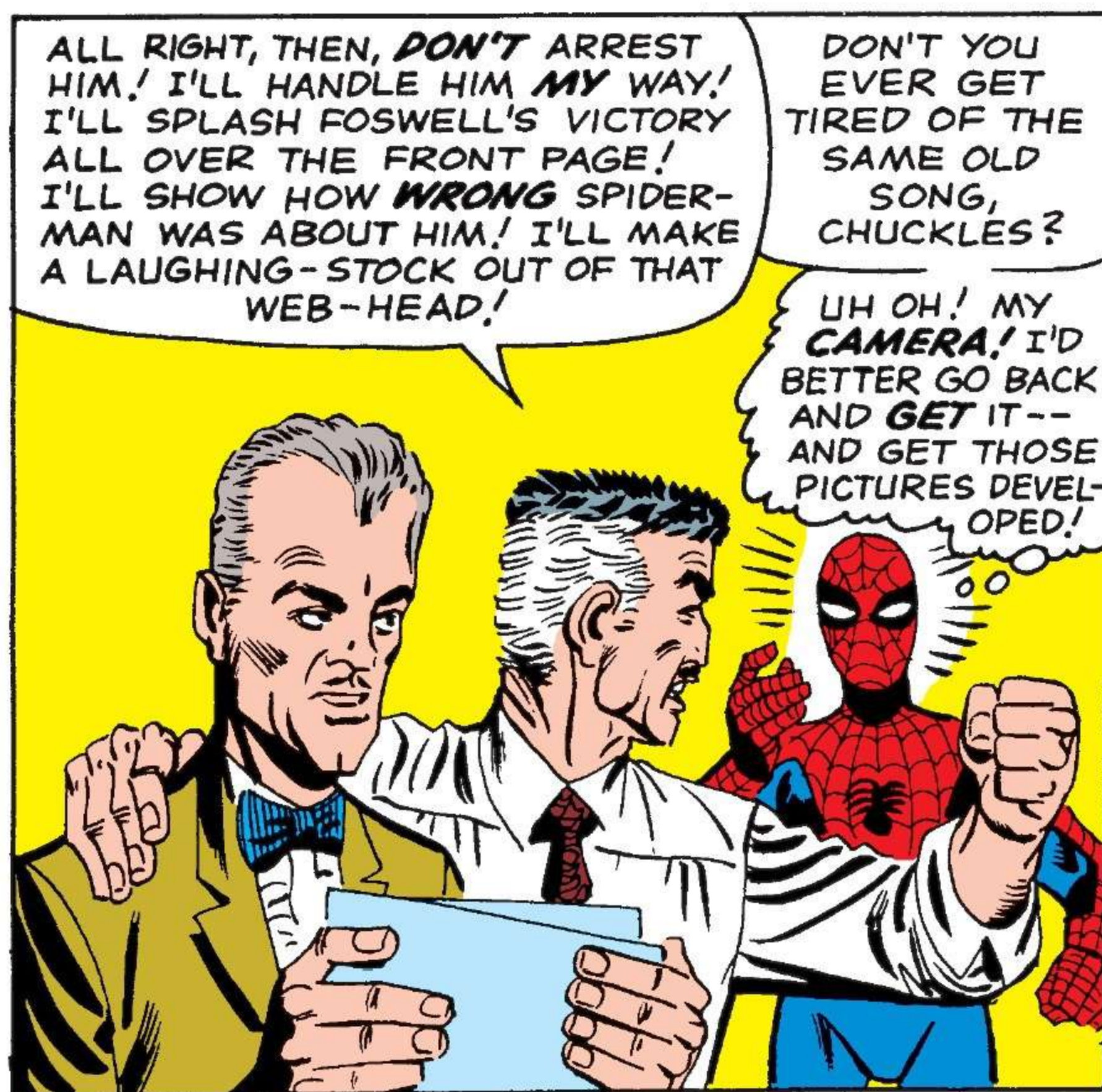


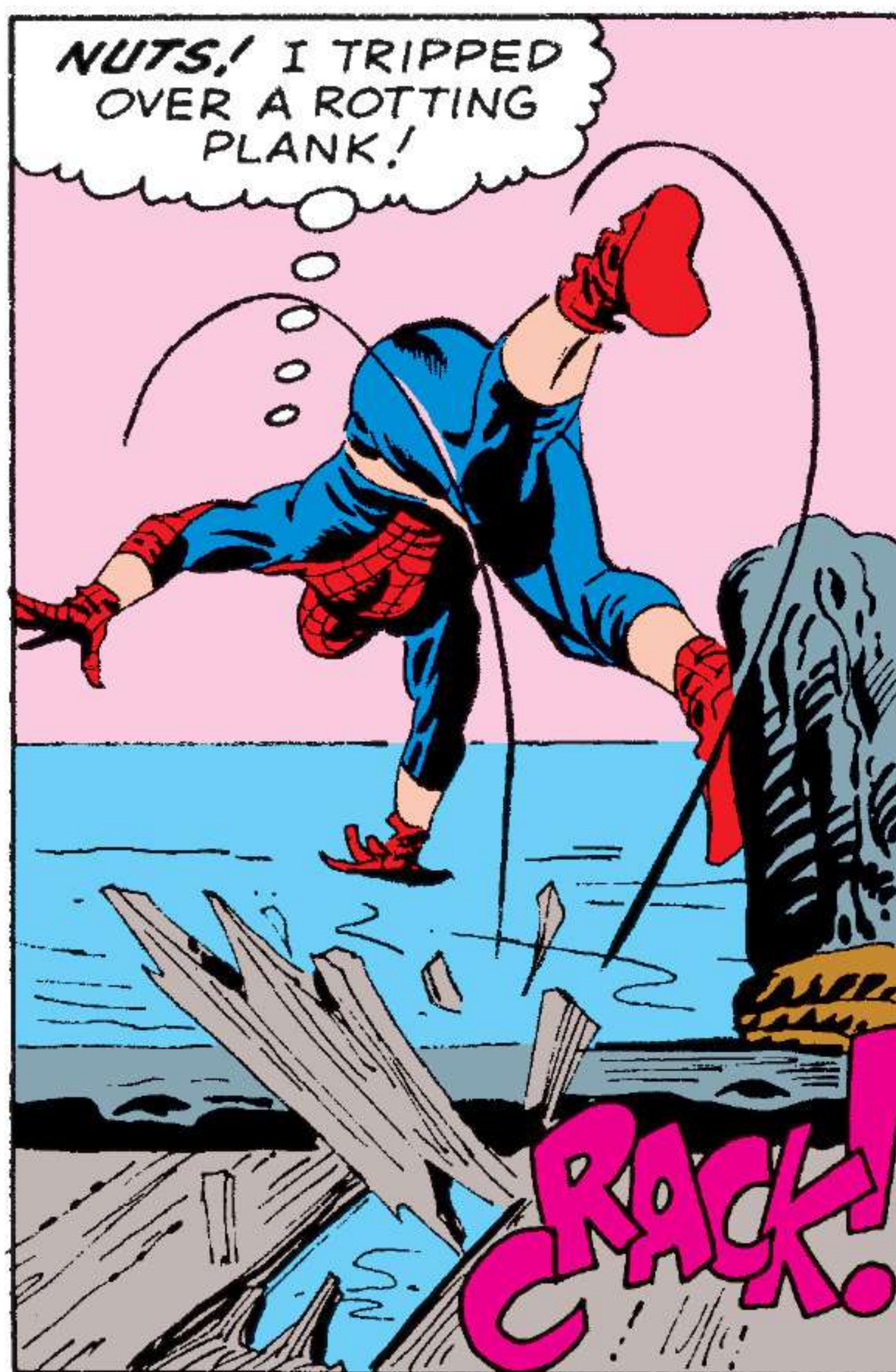
IT'S KINDA
FUNNY--IN REAL
LIFE, WHEN A
VILLAIN IS
UNMASKED, HE
ISN'T ALWAYS
THE BUTLER,
OR THE ONE
YOU SUSPECTED!
SOMETIMES HE'S
A MAN YOU
DIDN'T EVEN
KNOW!

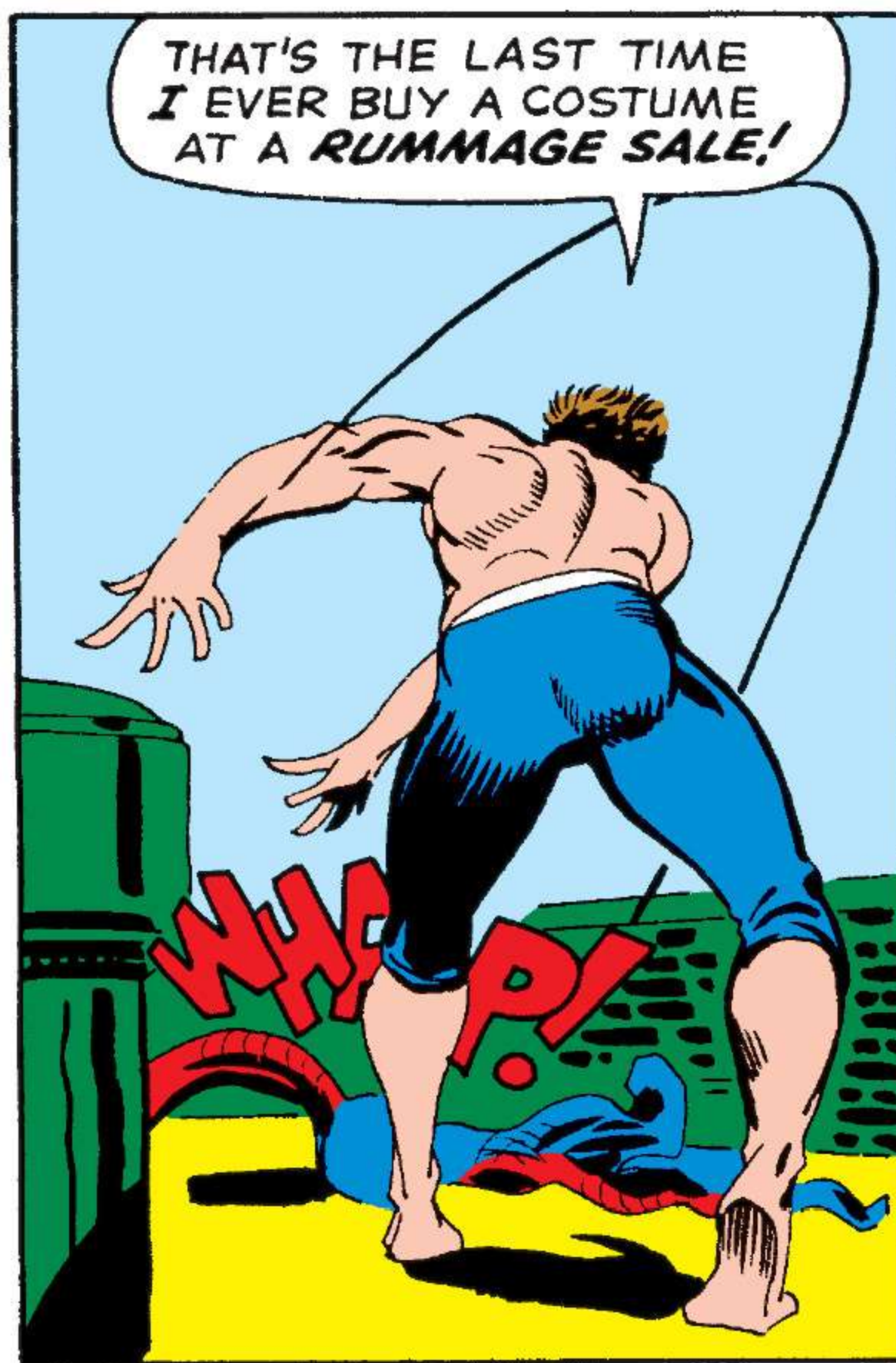
HE **KNEW** I WAS A THREAT TO
HIM! HE EVEN SHOT AT SOMEONE
IN MY ROOM, THINKING IT WAS
ME!

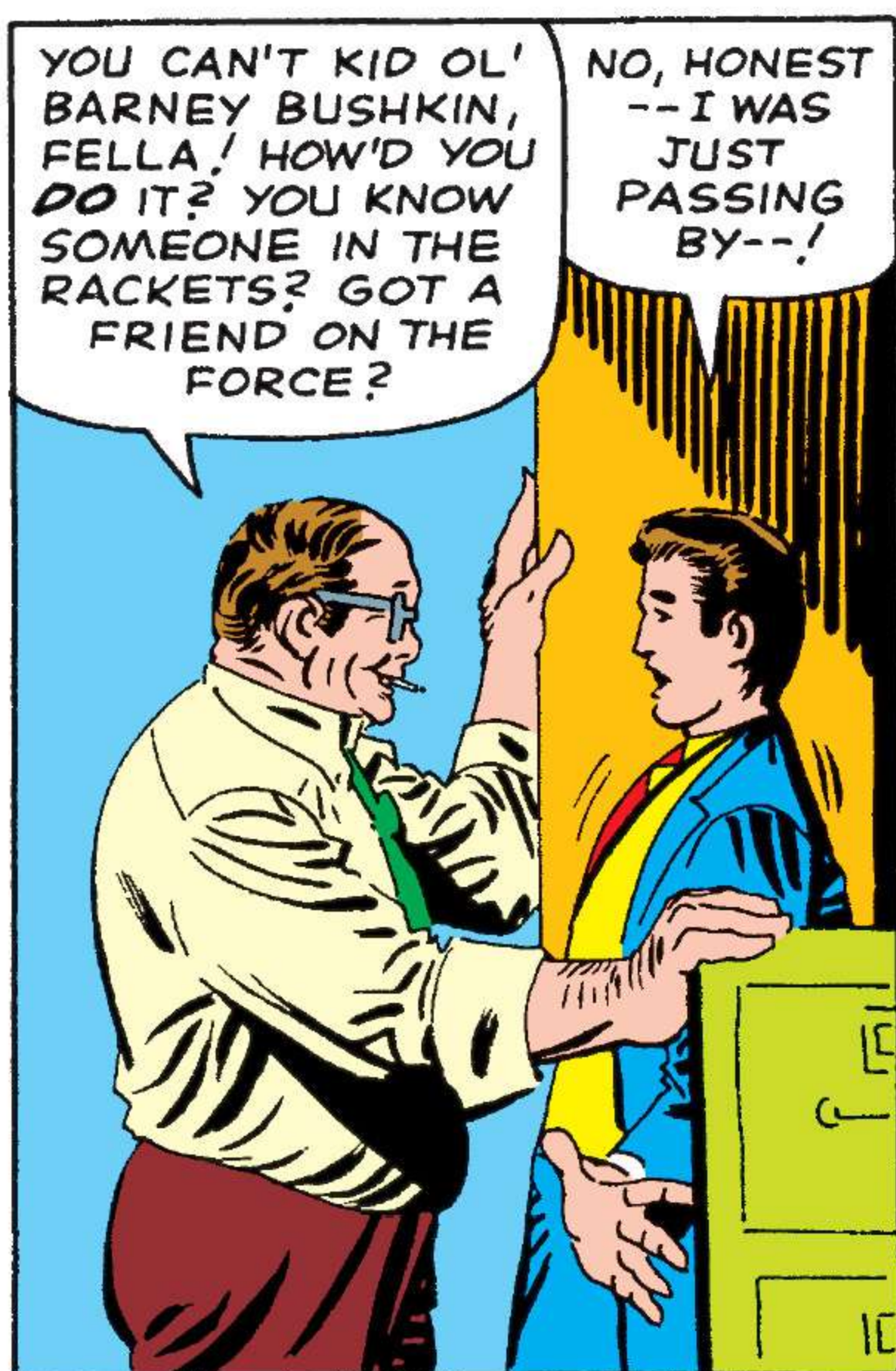
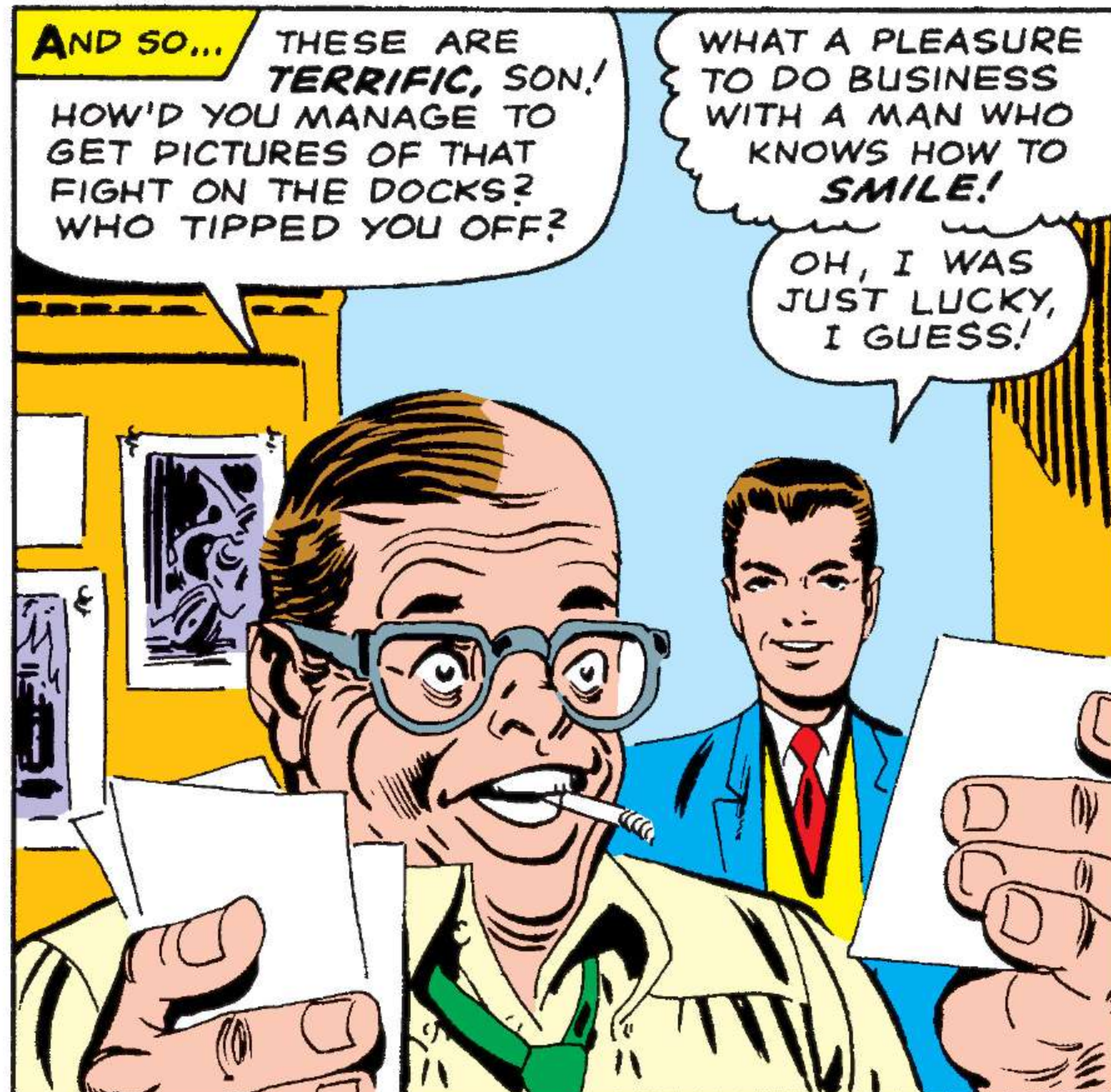
I WAS THAT
SOMEONE!
SO IT WAS
CRIME-
MASTER
WHO SHOT AT
ME--**NOT**
FOSWELL!

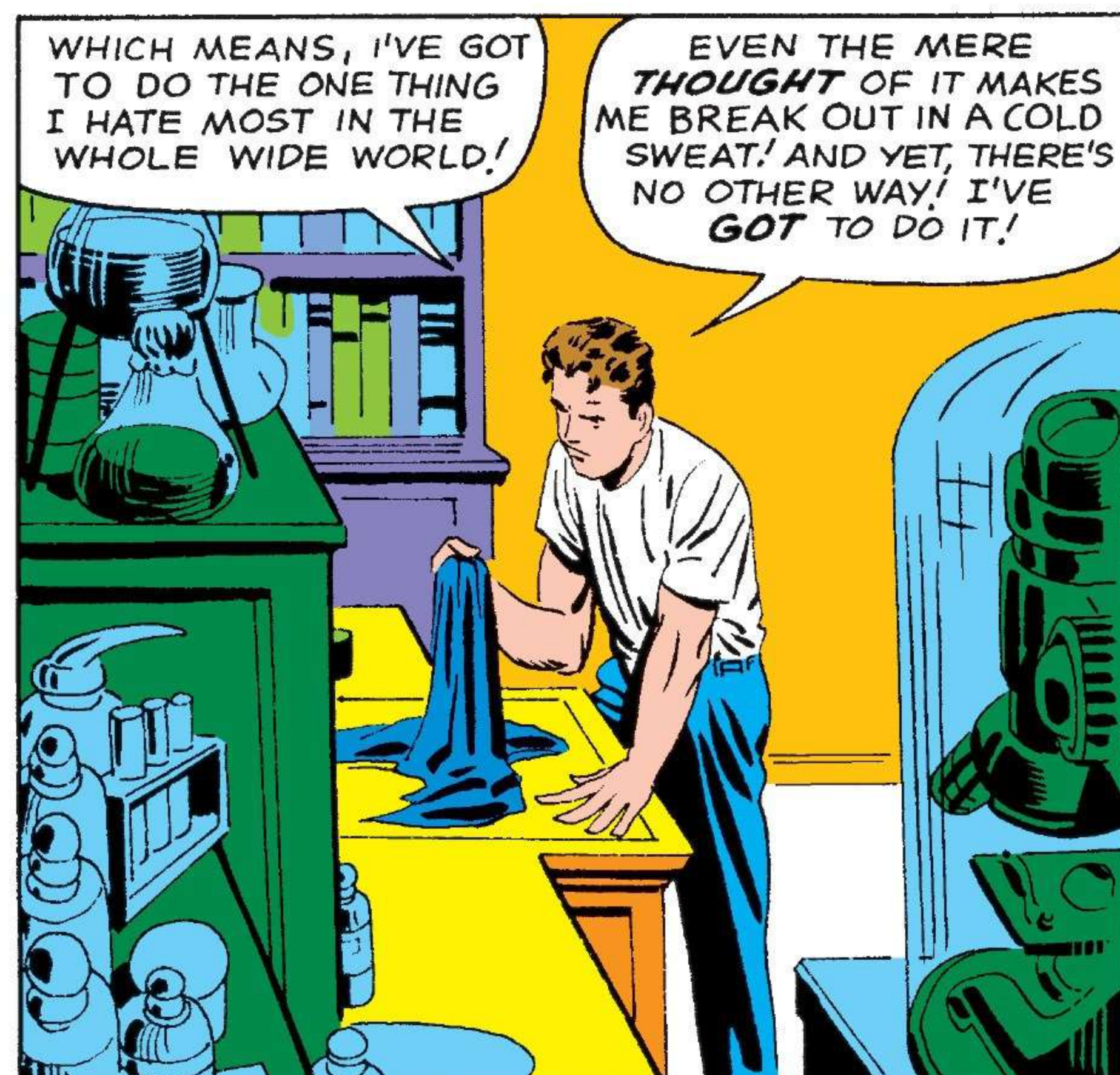
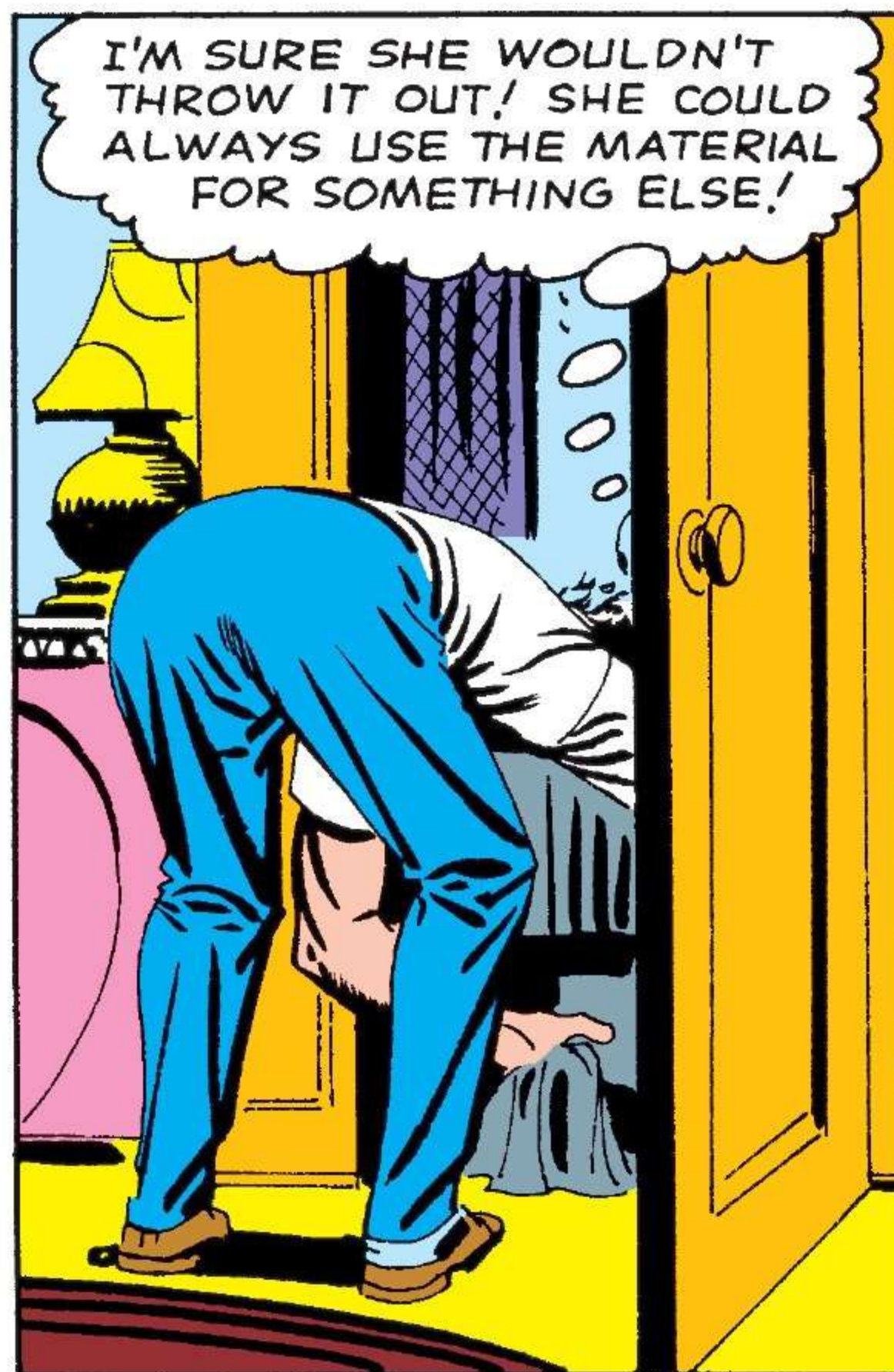
I ACTED AS
BAIT, TO
HELP THE
POLICE TRAP
LUCKY LEWIS!

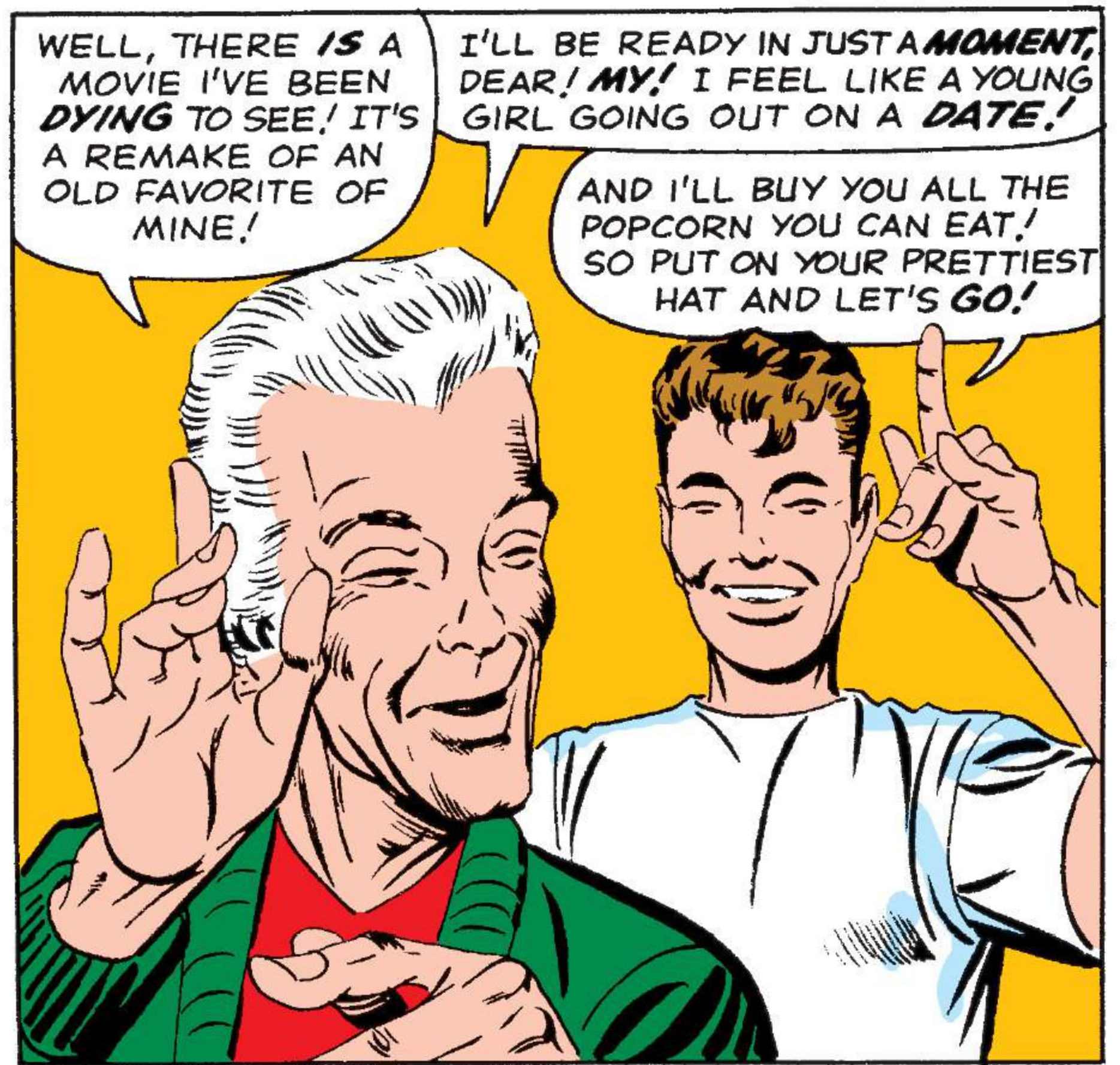
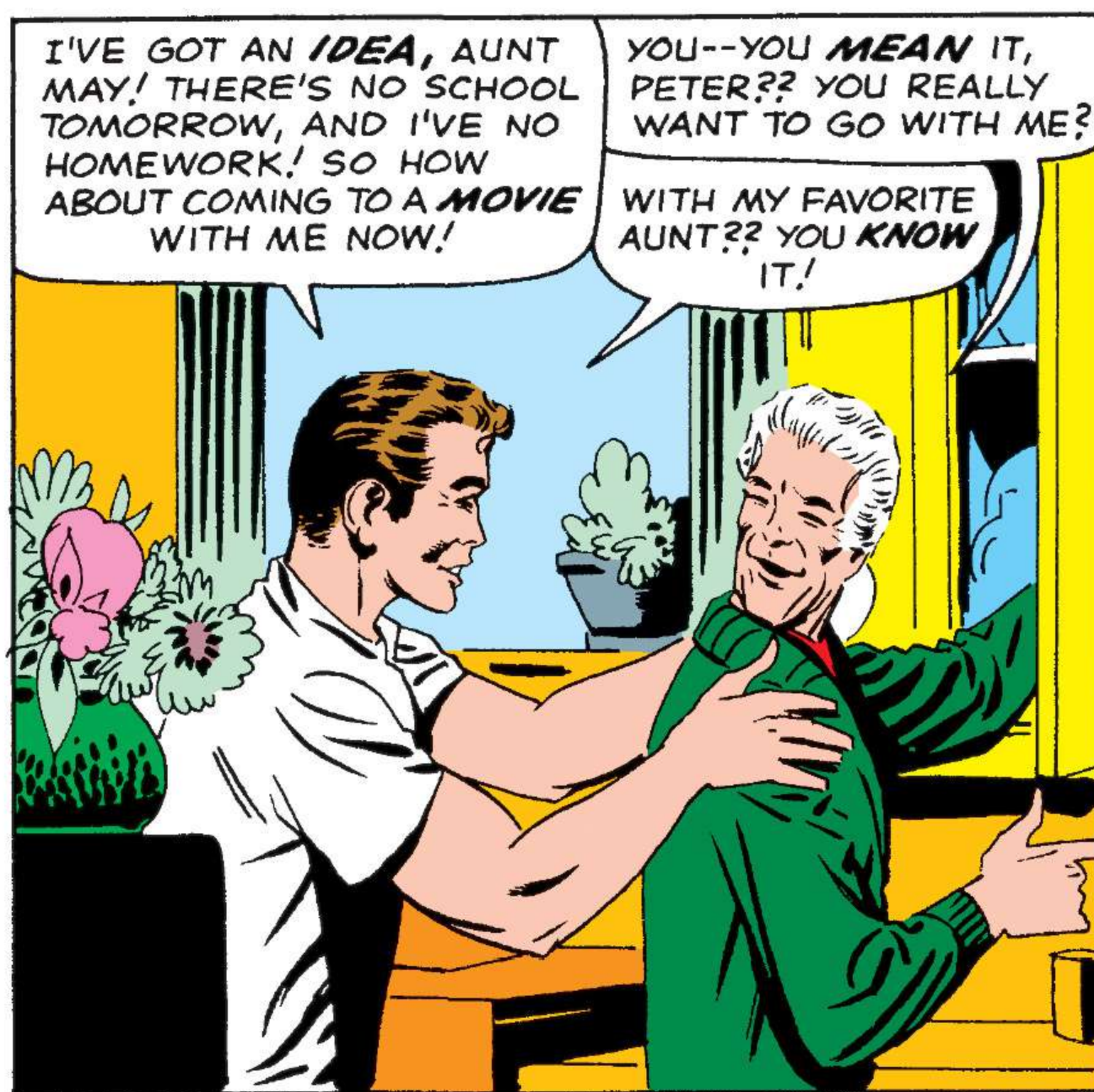
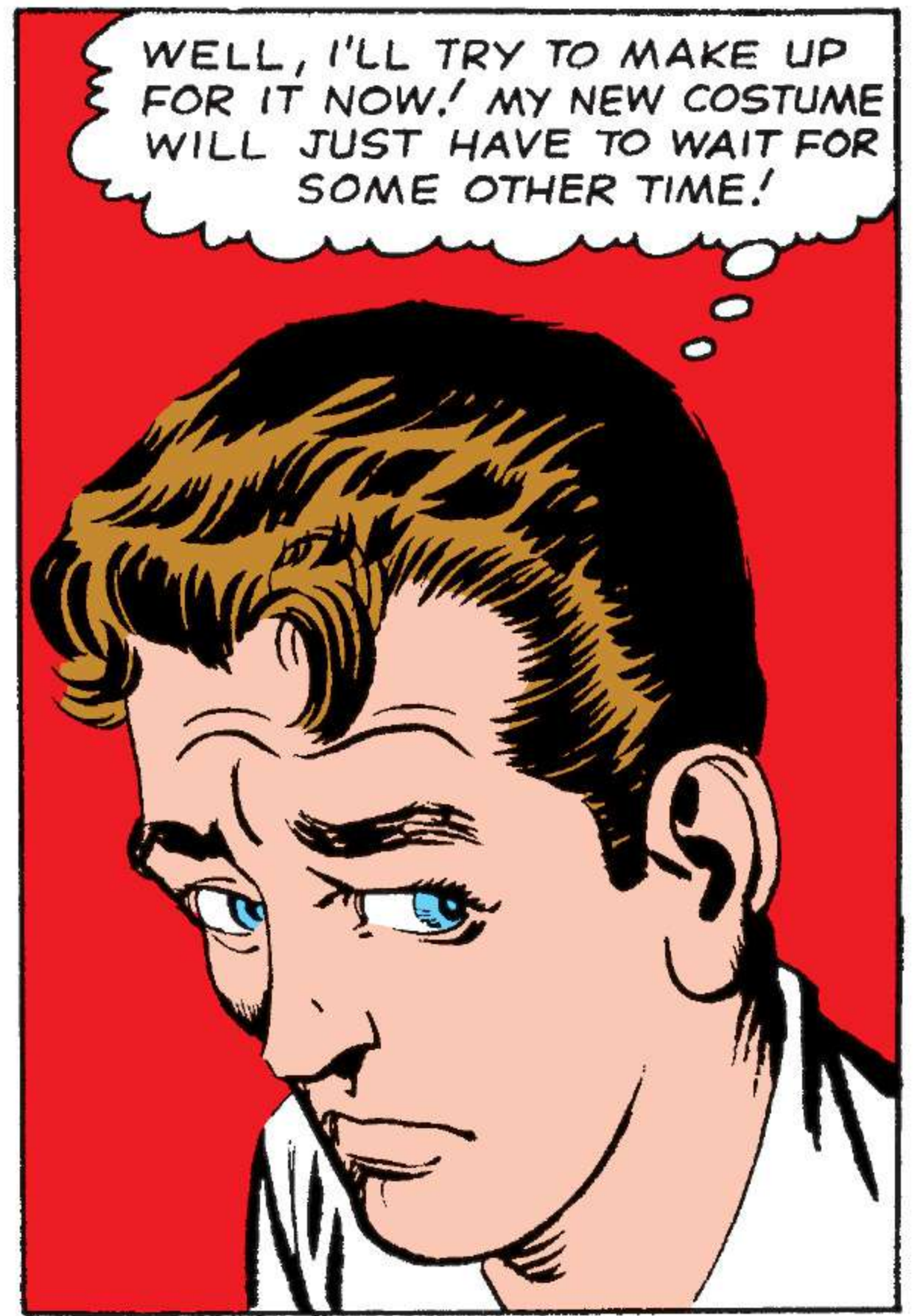
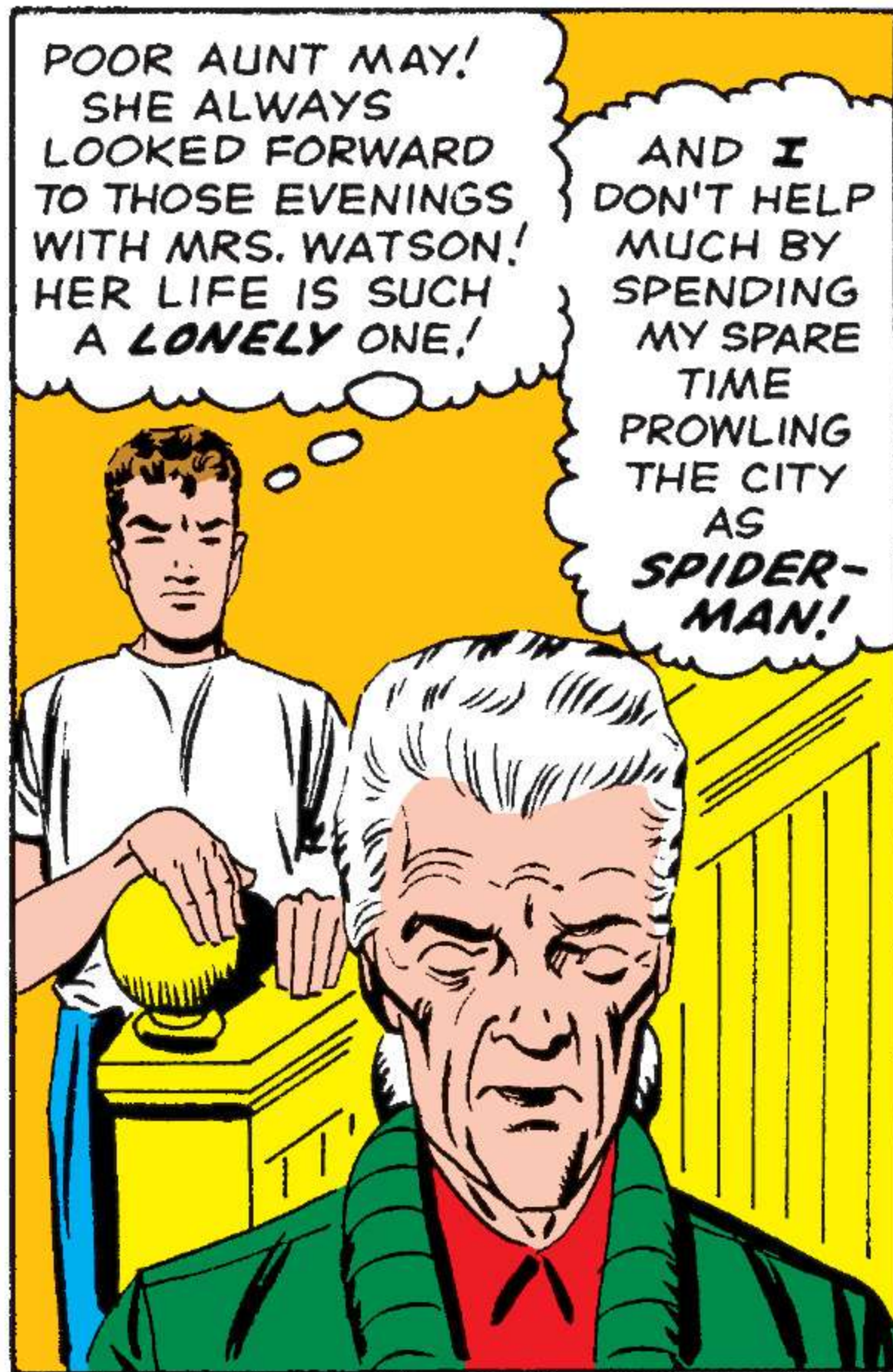














NOW, WITH THE **CRIME-MASTER** DEAD, IT'S SAFE FOR ME TO RETURN TO MY APARTMENT!

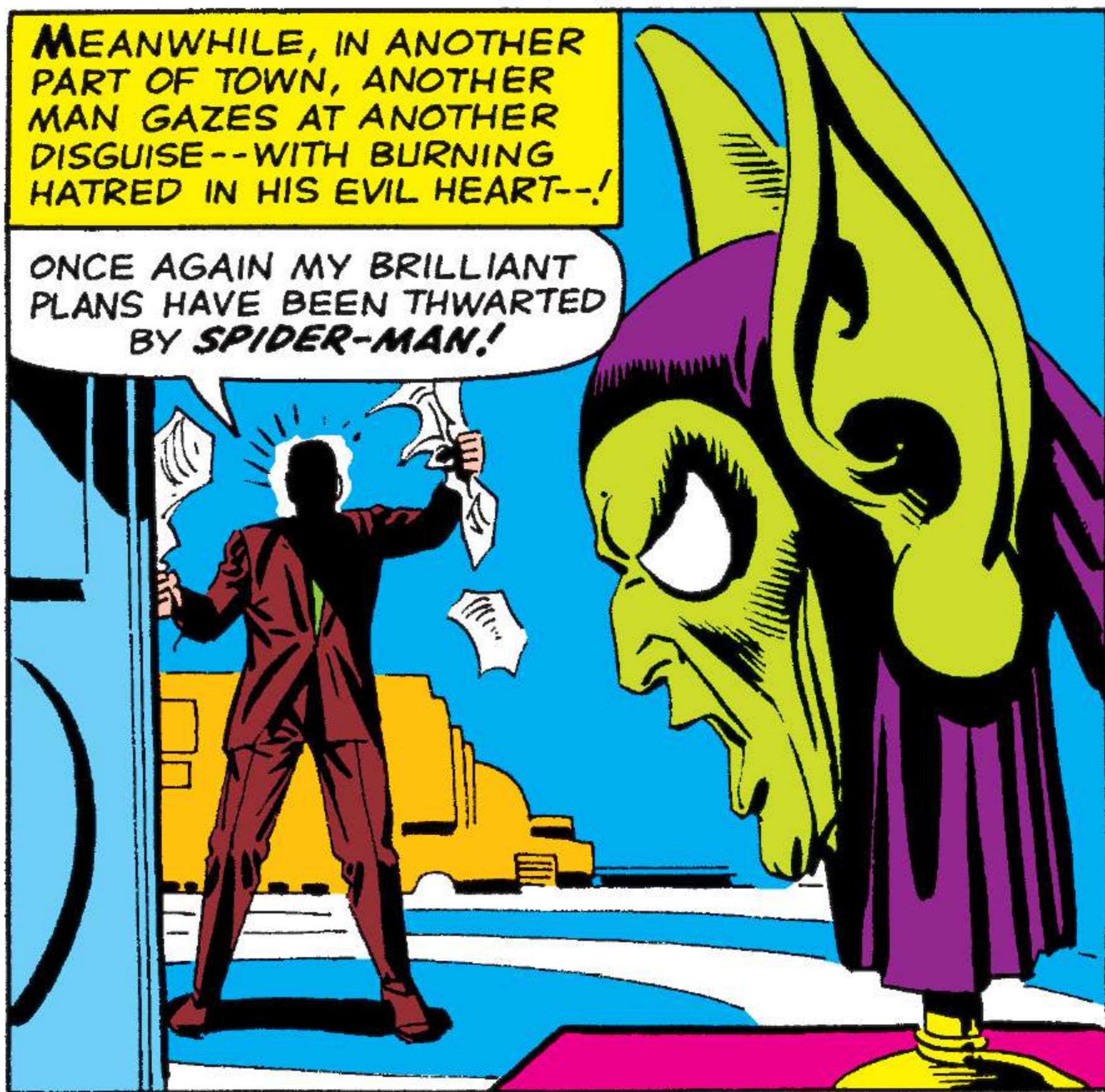


MY LITTLE DISGUISE HAS SERVED ME WELL! BUT, I WONDER IF I'LL EVER HAVE TO WEAR IT AGAIN!



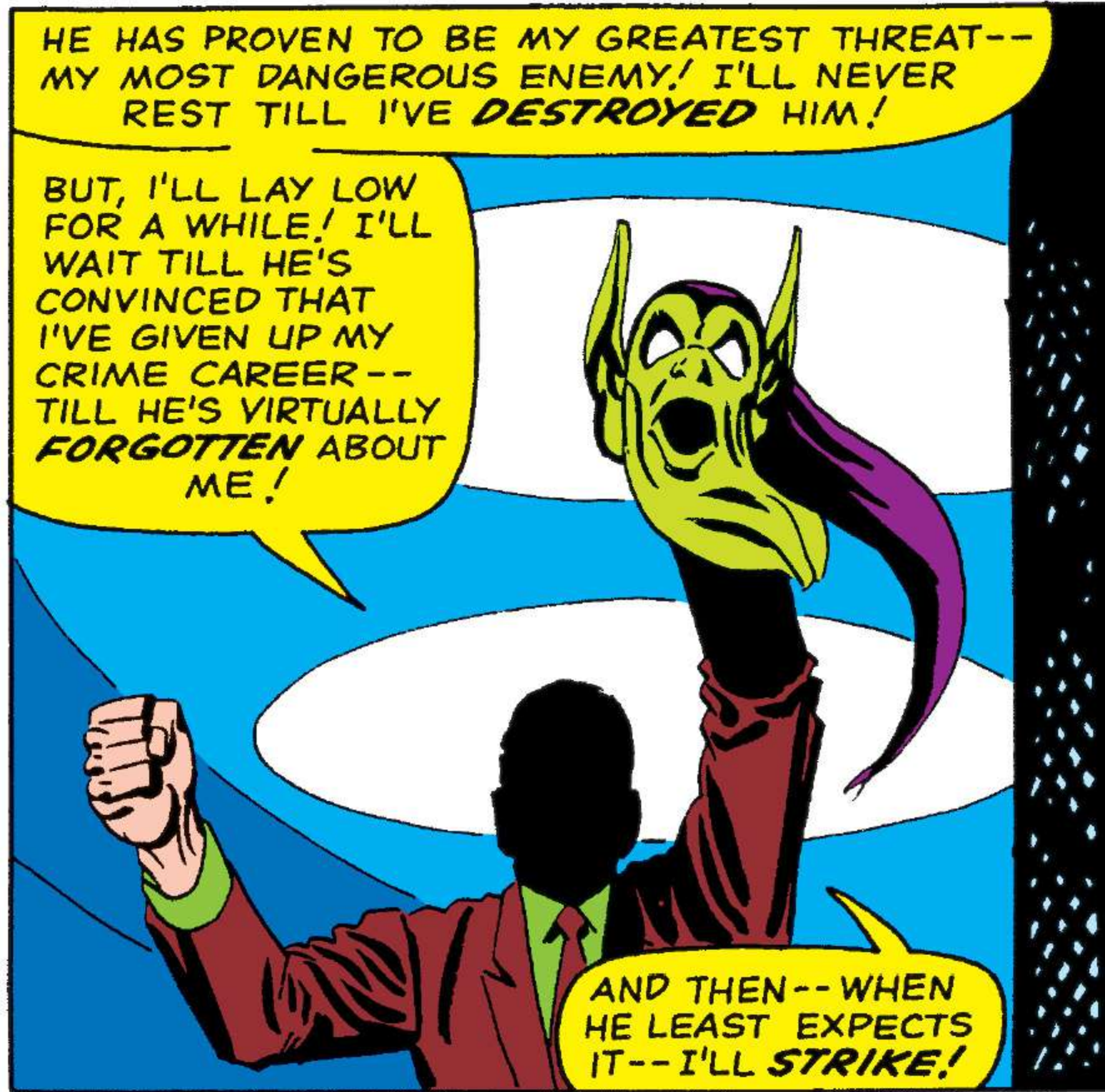
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO DANGEROUS FOR **FREDERICK FOSWELL** TO MINGLE WITH THE MOBS, GAINING INFORMATION!

BUT, THE UNDERWORLD NEVER GUESSED THAT THE INFORMER WHO BETRAYED THEM WAS THE CHARACTER KNOWN AS-- **PATCH!**



MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, ANOTHER MAN GAZES AT ANOTHER DISGUISE--WITH BURNING HATRED IN HIS EVIL HEART--!

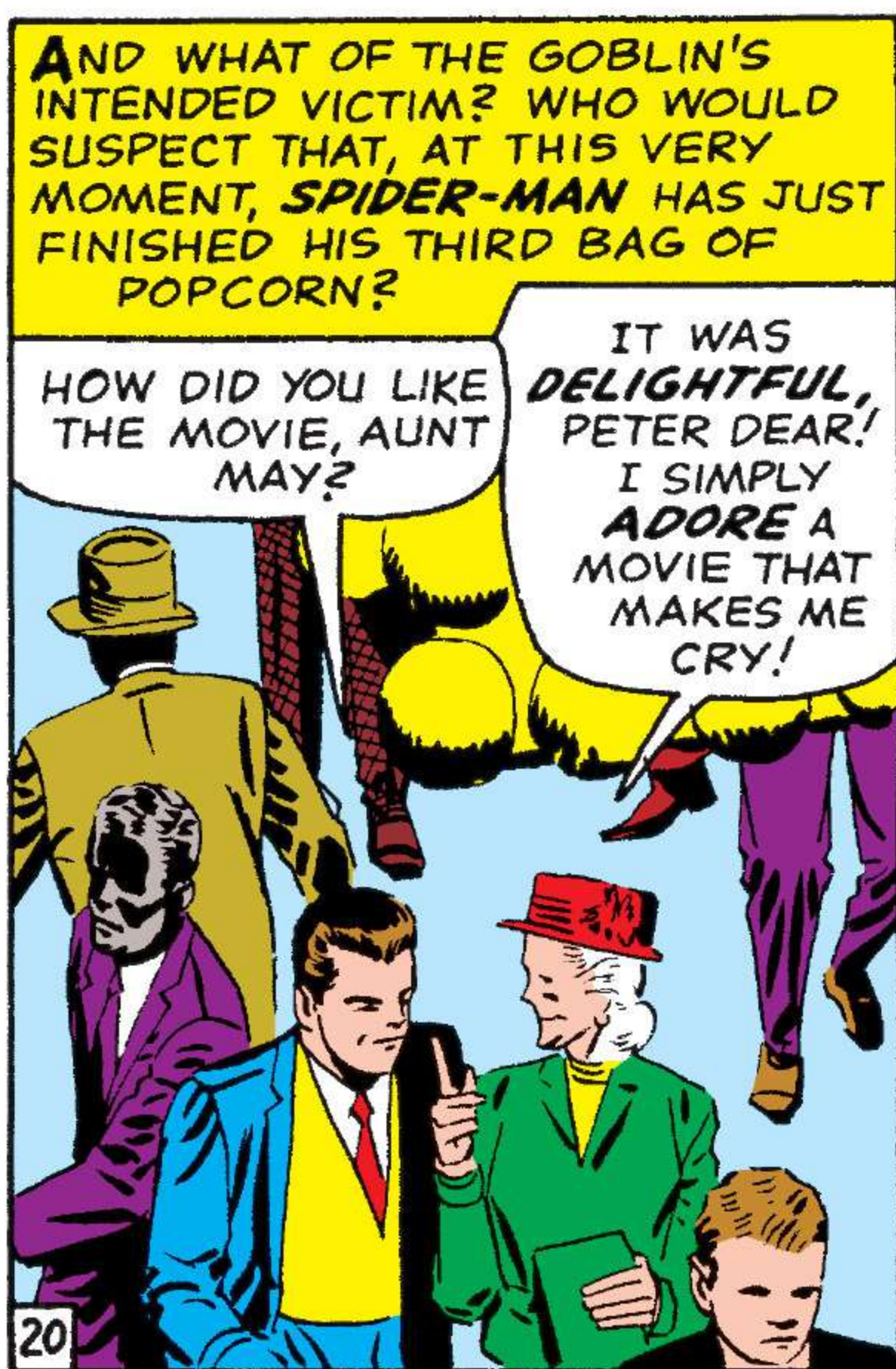
ONCE AGAIN MY BRILLIANT PLANS HAVE BEEN THWARTED BY **SPIDER-MAN!**



HE HAS PROVEN TO BE MY GREATEST THREAT--MY MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY! I'LL NEVER REST TILL I'VE **DESTROYED** HIM!

BUT, I'LL LAY LOW FOR A WHILE! I'LL WAIT TILL HE'S CONVINCED THAT I'VE GIVEN UP MY CRIME CAREER--TILL HE'S VIRTUALLY **FORGOTTEN** ABOUT ME!

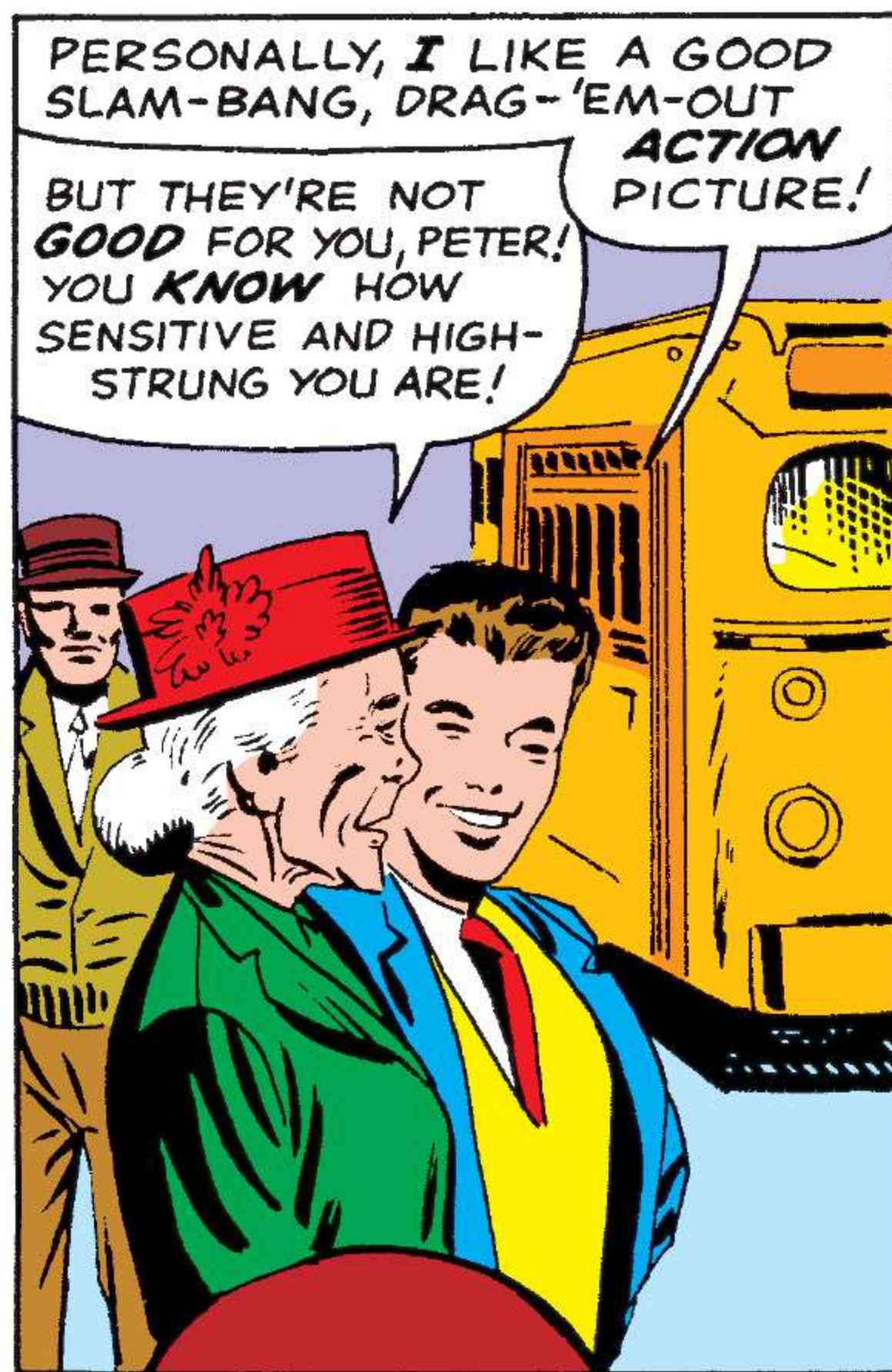
AND THEN--WHEN HE LEAST EXPECTS IT--I'LL **STRIKE!**



AND WHAT OF THE GOBLIN'S INTENDED VICTIM? WHO WOULD SUSPECT THAT, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, **SPIDER-MAN** HAS JUST FINISHED HIS THIRD BAG OF POPCORN?

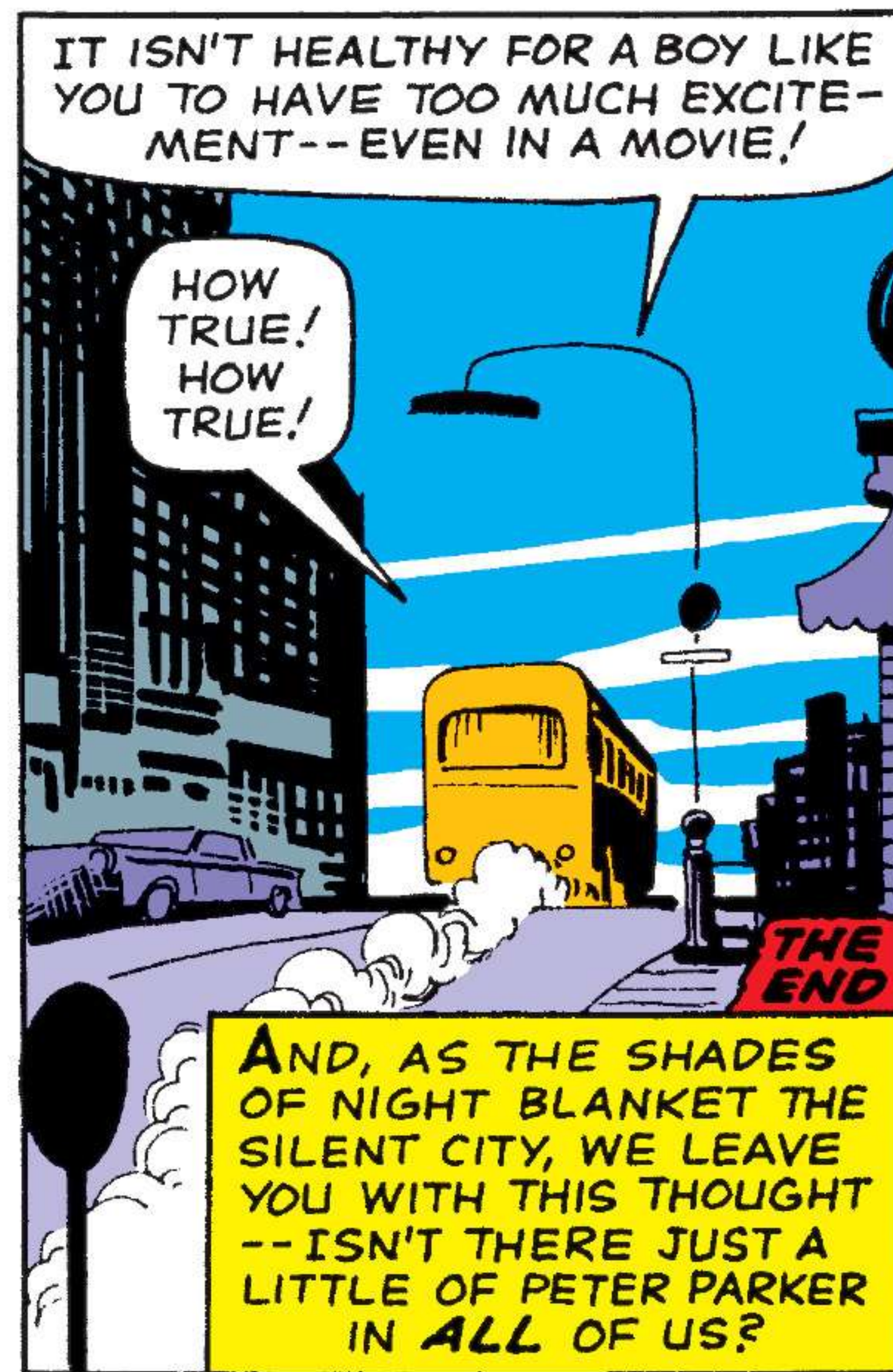
HOW DID YOU LIKE THE MOVIE, AUNT MAY?

IT WAS **DELIGHTFUL**, PETER DEAR! I SIMPLY **ADORE** A MOVIE THAT MAKES ME CRY!



PERSONALLY, I LIKE A GOOD SLAM-BANG, DRAG-'EM-OUT **ACTION** PICTURE!

BUT THEY'RE NOT **GOOD** FOR YOU, PETER! YOU **KNOW** HOW SENSITIVE AND HIGH-STRUNG YOU ARE!



IT ISN'T HEALTHY FOR A BOY LIKE YOU TO HAVE TOO MUCH EXCITEMENT--EVEN IN A MOVIE!

HOW TRUE! HOW TRUE!

AND, AS THE SHADES OF NIGHT BLANKET THE SILENT CITY, WE LEAVE YOU WITH THIS THOUGHT -- ISN'T THERE JUST A LITTLE OF PETER PARKER IN **ALL** OF US?

THE END



THE SPIDER'S WEB

—You may have liked our little offering this month, or you may have hated it, but we'll bet you one thing—you'll never see a yarn like it in any Brand X mag! (Probably because they're too smart!) Anyway, now that the Crime-Master is finally kaput, we'll try to polish off the Green Goblin for you — but, it won't be easy because so far he's been too smart for Spidey, and for Stan and Steve as well! Anyway, it's fan and pan mail time, so put your little webbies away and let's get to it—

Dear Stan and Steve,

Gosh oh mighty! We couldn't believe it! But there it was; in technicolor yet! An invitation in your February issue to join the Merry Marvel Marching Society! Us nuts here in the United States Army, One Hundred and Eighteenth (118) Band, are fighting the lonely war. We're stationed in Verdun, France, and things aren't as exciting for us as they are for the Fantastic Four, Spidey, and all the other super cats. And since we can't go to the bottom of the seas, or go to distant planets (because we can't get a leave from our C.O.), we all love to read about the exploits of our favorite heroes, and each month it's a race to see who gets the latest issue first. So, gang—keep up the good work. Enclosed you'll find the names of your loyal fans (you'll also find our hard earned money) for membership into the Merry Marvel Marching Society.

Robert A. Stillman, 118th Army Band
APO 122, New York, New York

You mean you don't get *enough* marching in the army, Bob? Oh well, some guys are never satisfied! By the time these imperishable words appear in print, you'll have already received your M.M.M.S. goodies, plus a complimentary subscription to Spidey, just because we've a soft spot in our hearts for service men who can't make it to the moon on account of their C.O. not giving them a leave! (It matches the soft spot which we've also got in our heads!)

THE BIGGEST NEWS YET! When mighty Marvel changes the line-ups in a couple of already successful titles, that's news! But when the changes are as great as these, that's a sensation! We'll give it to you fast, straight, and unvarnished —because nothing we can say could possibly add to the genuine luster of these two fabulous strips! Starting with the issues now on sale, **STRANGE TALES** will feature "Nick Fury, Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.", while **TALES TO ASTONISH** stars "Prince Namor, the Sub-Mariner"! See what we mean? What more can we say, except—don't dare miss 'em!

Dear Stan and Steve,

From now on I beg of you not to let us Marvel fans know what a villain's scheme is until the hero himself finds out. This is the big mistake you made in Spider-Man #23. Right from the beginning the Goblin's scheme was realized. This killed all the suspense that could have been built up. So, instead of the reader watching the development of Green-Face's plan, he should have been concerned with what the plan was. Get the idea?

Tim Wise, 224 Arundel Rd.
Riviera Beach, Md. 21123

Wadaya mean *get* the idea? We *wrote* the idea, remember? Anyway, we thought that knowing Gobby's plan would make the story even more exciting! But apparently we guessed wrong! Or, did we? What do the rest of you Spider-Maniacs think?

Dear Stan and Steve,

There is a superstition that if someone squashes a spider with their little finger, money will soon be found. Please don't let this leak out to the Hulk! If so, please warn Spidey!

Eric Ellis, Star Route
Lisbon, Maine 04250

Don't worry, Eric, that little gem of information won't reach the Hulk! We understand he cancelled his subscription to SPIDER-MAN only last week!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #41: Is this the end of the fabulous F. F. at last? The mighty Thing has gone! The remaining three are on the verge of splitting up! And then, the most unexpected danger of all appears! This is truly Marvel's supreme achievement!

AVENGERS #18: Marvel's most surprising, mightiest super-team finds an incredible danger behind the iron curtain! See why Captain America's new fighting band is the talk of comicdom today!

X-MEN #12: At last! The long-awaited origin of Professor X—plus the most dramatic introduction of a mysterious new villain that you've ever seen! Stan and Jack pulled out all the stops on this one!

THOR #18: For the first time in recorded history, Goldilocks faces a super-foe who is not only as strong as he—but actually STRONGER! Possibly the greatest new menace ever presented will meet your startled eyes in this epic-making issue!

STRANGE TALES #135: The secret's out at last! Mighty Marvel has bowed to your demands! This ish will be a collector's item before the year's end, for it features the start of the most off-beat series of all: Nick Fury, Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.! Written by our leader, and drawn by King Kirby! 'Nuff said!

SUSPENSE #68: Iron Man stars in "If a Man Be Mad!" Captain America thrills you again in "Lest Tyranny Triumph!" Without bragging, without fanfare, we can honestly say that this issue reaches a new height of pictorial perfection!

ASTONISH #70: Bursting on the scene with the shock of a thunderclap comes the most famous hero-villain of all time—Sub-Mariner, beginning the most dramatic, spectacular series yet! We predict that the powerful combo of Prince Namor, followed by the incredible Hulk, will make ASTONISH the fastest Marvel sell-out of the month!

SGT. FURY #20: We promised they'd be back, and here they are! The fantastic Blitz Squad of Baron Strucker returns for the most exciting hand-to-hand battle with the Howlers that we've ever presented! It's a real combat shocker!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Right now you are probably up to your necks in fan mail and I think it is about time someone showed some appreciation for all the hours you spend on it. For me the highlight of each ish of Spider-man is the letter page. I remember a little while back you wanted to drop the letter page from Spider-man due to the time and effort it took to prepare it. However, considering the wishes of your fans, as usual, you kept it. This wasn't necessary (your mags are so great that everyone would keep on buying them anyway) but you did it to please us. Now you have come up with a letter page in all your great mags. It just goes to show how much you think of us, and you can believe me it is appreciated out here in Marvel Land. Just so

you don't get swelled heads after all that praise, I've got a gripe. It's time to share that heading "THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAG" on the FF. The FF is great but it has a rival. In my humble opinion Spidey is equally great . . . which brings me to my point. You once stated that you would take a poll at the drop of a hat, so catch mine. Once a year (starting now) you could take a poll of all your mags to see which one is the most popular. The winner would earn the right to wear the title "THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAG" for a year. You could even give a "no-prize" (wish I had one) to the reader with the best reason for liking his favorite mag. I bet Spidey would win with Daredevil running a close second. One last thing, who writes the answers to our letters, Stan and Steve or the editor?

Freddy Adams, 3606 Pelzer Ave.
Montgomery, Ala.

Didn't you know, Fred? Stan is the editor, and these letters pages are strictly his babies! The gang in the bullpen all join in reading your masterful missives, and then they go out to clown around, leaving handsome heroic, hard-working Stan to write these wondrous words! (And just guess who wrote *that* last sentence!)

—THE INSIDE SCOOP! Our eagerly-awaited SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #2 goes on sale early in July, as we told you last ish! But, this time it'll feature some of our most oft-requested REPRINT material, plus a brand-new, swingin', never-before-published Spidey yarn! Let's see anyone beat *THAT* set-up! More info next ish—as soon as WE find out!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Greetings from the first Spider-man fan club in Bangkok, Thailand (at least I think it is.) Our favorites are 1) SPIDER-MAN, 2) X-MEN, 3) SUSPENSE, 4) AVENGERS, 5) FANTASTIC FOUR, 6) THOR, 7) ASTONISH, and 8) STRANGE TALES. The reason we didn't include SGT. FURY and DAREDEVIL is that we don't get any of them here. There are five people in the club and we are all going to join the MMMS as soon as we can get a new member. All of us think that Doc Ock and the Green Goblin are Spiderman's greatest foes. One problem that we have here is that comics cost four and five baht (20 and 25 cents) and since Thai labor is so cheap, you can't earn it mowing lawns or delivering papers. Keep up the good work, and as Spidey would say, Nuff Webbed!

David Miller, c/o Lt. Col. F. L. Miller
5th RRU APO San Francisco, Calif. 96346

Any frantic fans who constantly spend four and five baht in far-off Thailand for our Marvel masterpieces deserve a break, Dave! So, we'll see if we can rustle up a few bonus mags to send you. (But we hope this doesn't start a mass exodus of our readers to Bangkok—we haven't that many extra issues around!)

—By the way, have you noticed the startling new developments in the "FANTASTIC FOUR"? To paraphrase the old-time song, "That ol' orange Thing just ain't what he used to be!" Lately, fans have been claiming that "The World's Greatest Comic Magazine" has been even greater than ever! So, be sure to latch onto a copy and share with us the thrills and surprises which our most famous companion mag has in store for you! Although we flip over all our Marvel mags, we have to admit that our two first-born babies, F.F. and SPIDEY, still hold a very special spot in our hearts!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have read ish #23, which was was marvelous. In this issue I would say Frederick Foswell became good friends with the Green Goblin because everything Gobby know, Foswell knew also. Foswell could not be the Goblin because when the Goblin was first introduced Foswell was probably still in jail. In school for mid-term exams (art) I drew what I thought was the Spider beam and called it the sign of the Spider. One question I have is why does the Goblin use his glider instead of his jet broomstick (ish #14) which could hold more weight?

Dave Dzubinski, 2815 Boston Blvd.
Lansing, Mich.

It's amazing how our readers seem to know more about our own mags than *we* do! Was Foswell still in jail when Gobby was introduced? We didn't know? And,

can Gobby's jet broomstick carry more weight than his jet glider? Nobody told *us*! And another thing, Dave—what happened to the spider-beam you drew in art school? You've got us all up in the air!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have just finished the "Return of the Green Goblin." It was far better than the first Green Goblin mostly because the Hulk was not present. Not that I have anything against the Jolly Green Giant, but don't you think that one Jolly Green Something is enough for one story? I think that for fun I'll hazard a few guesses at who the Goblin is. 1) The Director of the picture, because in both stories the Goblin is connected in some ways with the motion picture industry. Most likely he is another prop artist like Mysterio. 2) If it weren't so improbable I would say J.J.J. or the crook on page 8, but both have alibis. J.J.J. was at the fan meeting and unless the crook is a quick-change artist he is ruled out because of the color of the coat he was wearing. (Unless Steve has been goofing again and forgot to draw the lines in the suit.) The only other side person was Mr. Hilton, Liz's father. It just so happens that I have a grudge against that blonde-haired vamp and if the Goblin's alter ego didn't act as if the meeting was a surprise to him he would have been a likely suspect. 3) Of all his foes only Mysterio or the Chamelon would be likely suspects. The Chamelon is a master of disguise and this role would appeal to him. Mysterio would fit into the part perfectly. He has worked in the movies, which would explain his gadgets and the fact that the first story was centered around a movie and the occurrence of a movie set in the second story. That's my hunches and most likely they are all wrong. I just saw the Marvel annuals. In the Spidey annual, you seem to be selling Steve Ditko. Every other word was "the usual Ditko style." I saw your mug file in the Marvel annual and I bet you can't guess what it reminded me of? It took me five minutes before I knew what. Did anyone ever tell you fellows that your group picture looked like Al Capone's mob?

George Hagenauer, 10204 St. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago 24, Ill. 60628

Okay, smart guy! Just for that we won't tell you *who* the Green Goblin is! And what makes you think you'd like our mags any better if they were drawn by bathing beauties? (Although, come to think of it, Georgie, we might like it better!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

Spider-man is not the most human Marvel hero! Peter Parker is! No matter how ridiculous Spidey's exploits become (and some of them have been kind of awful) Peter has the same old problem that two billion people have: how to get other people to like them. Readers tend to identify with Pete because of this. Contrary to popular opinion, your stuff is not quite as good as Shakespeare or Homer—but then, they couldn't draw very well, either! I think the idea of Pete "popping his cork" is a stroke of genius. If Cap America can fight communism, why can't Spidey do his bit for mental health? I've got a question. How come subscriptions are more expensive than buying single issues? Most comics give a discount (I know—you're not like other companies.) I would subscribe if it weren't for the extra cost.

Jean Willtrout, 1006 W. 19th
Austin 1, Texas, 78701

The truth sounds so unbelievable that we hate to say it, Jean! We actually would prefer our fans *not* to subscribe! We feel a certain loyalty to the newsdealers who display and sell our mags thruout the free world, and every subscription means one less sale for some newsstand. So, we merely offer our subs as a convenience to readers, but just between us—we're not pushing them! Okay?

—And now, not a single word about next ish! We want every dizzy surprise you'll find there to be completely unexpected! But, we WILL say this—if we don't find you hangin' round our web next month, we're liable to cry our eyes out! So BE there—you know how simpy we look with red-rimmed eyes! (And we're BUSTIN' to see how you look in your new Spidey T-Shirt!)

The Amazing Spider-Man #27, page 16 original art
by Steve Ditko

SPIDERMAN 27

